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Iran's Push for Nuclear Arms and a Small Airstrip in Germany

By Chris Hedges
New York Times Service

HASENMOOR, Germany — The tiny Hertenholzm civilian airport here, with its fleet of a dozen aging Cessnas, small wooden building for the local parachute club, snack bar, nine warehouses, and red-and-white checkered control tower, appears to be the ideal home for weekend and business fliers.

But the airport, which, because of its size, operates largely beyond the scrutiny of the customs authorities, is believed to be one of dozens of transit points used by the Iranian government to smuggle from Europe to Iran, weapons parts, and advanced technology used to develop nuclear weapons, Western intelligence officials say.

Some intelligence officials say they believe that despite an embargo imposed by the West, Iran may have a nuclear capacity in as little as five years. Intelligence officials say the airport is part of an

elaborate network set up by Iran's Islamic government throughout Europe, Russia, and the Central Asian republics, one that is apparently also being used to funnel weapons to the Croatian government and Muslims in Bosnia.

The airport, which is 56 kilometers (35 miles) north of Hamburg, is owned by three Iranians who are reputed to be among the biggest arms dealers in Europe, the officials say.

And some German officials say they now suspect that some Iranians who have used the airport for arms trafficking, backed by the Tehran government, may be implicated in the mysterious death in 1987 in a Geneva hotel room of Uwe Barschel, the former premier of the German state of Schleswig-Holstein, where the airport is located.

Intelligence agencies are so overwhelmed by the scope of the Iranian smuggling operation that, they said, it is almost impossible to monitor. The clandestine equipment, they said, is often broken down

into nearly unidentifiable parts and shipped out from different countries and by different routes.

"It is almost impossible to trace the material being smuggled out by the Iranians," a senior German intelligence official said. "Unless you know exactly what type of technology they are trying to build, the smugglers can collect various parts, from various sources that mask the Iranians' intent."

"The Iranians spread their acquisitions program over a huge area. We were able to stop one recent acquisition only because we obtained the key numbers of the component they wanted to build on a computer disk. Our best hope now is that we can delay the process. We will not be able to stop it."

Iranian officials deny that Tehran is trying to build a nuclear arsenal. Iran's foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, has called for all nuclear weapons programs in the Middle East to be disclosed and has chastised Israel for refusing to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which Iran has signed.

German intelligence officials said that they had mounted an ambitious program to halt the flow of arms-related technology to Iran. "There was no way the Germans were ever willing to provide German technology to help the Iranians," Bernd Schmidbauer, the chancellor's minister in charge of intelligence coordination, said when asked about Iran's smuggling network. "This has been our position and is adhered to strictly."

Intelligence officials said that the Iranian effort to acquire nuclear weapons technology mirrored the push by President Saddam Hussein to build a nuclear bomb in Iraq over the last 15 years. The Iranians use many of the old Iraqi smuggling routes and contacts, officials said. But, they added, Iran, unlike Iraq, is able to mask many acquisitions because of its nuclear energy program.

The small airport, tucked in rolling pasture land, would seem to be little use to the Iranians. It is built

See IRAN, Page 8

Italian Chief Gambles His Government Over Budget

Prime Minister Calls A Vote of Confidence To Push Plan for Deficit

By Celestine Bohlen
New York Times Service

ROME — Pushed to the brink by a debilitating budget battle, Prime Minister Lamberto Dini of Italy called Wednesday for a confidence vote on his two-month-old government, a gamble that could force national elections to be held as early as June.

After two days of debate in Parliament's lower house on amendments to his critical deficit-cutting budget package, Mr. Dini told deputies that he had no choice but to put his government on the line. "I am not asking you to form a government majority, or to choose political sides, but to render a service to the country," he said.

Speaking later to reporters, Mr. Dini, a former central banker who spent more than a decade in Washington at the International Monetary Fund, broke into English: "When the going gets tough," he said, "the tough get going."

If he is defeated in the vote Thursday, then President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro would have to either name a new prime minister who could muster a parliamentary majority or call immediate elections.

Mr. Dini, appointed early this year to head an interim nonpolitical government, has said he would resign after passing a four-point platform that included a program to cut back the deficit. But his government was weakened at the outset by a conflict with his predecessor, Silvio Berlusconi, a media magnate-turned-politician, over a date for new elections.

The budget package, which calls for 20 trillion lire (\$12 billion) in new taxes and spending cuts, passed the Senate this month. But it ran into trouble in the Chamber of Deputies, where Mr. Berlusconi has vowed to block it, apparently as part of his strategy to force early elections. Mr. Berlusconi said Wednesday that his Freedom Alliance would probably vote against Mr. Dini on Thursday, which would leave the prime minister's fate in the hands of a divided Communist Re-Establishment Party, a small party of the extreme left.

Since his government fell last December, Mr. Berlusconi has repeatedly called for June elections, which he says were promised by Mr. Scalfaro in January. In television advertisements broadcast in recent weeks, Mr. Berlusconi has told Italians that their vote to elect him last March has been betrayed, and in a recent speech he claimed that Italian democracy has been hijacked by "Communists and their allies who are preparing an all-out war" against his alliance.

Financial markets have been keeping a close watch on the budget debate, looking for reassurance that Italy is serious about tackling a deficit that is one of the highest in Europe.

In a statement last week, Mr. Dini warned that opposition to the budget bill had been interpreted as "confirmation that Italy is seemingly incapable of managing its own public deficit."



ASSESSING THE PEACE — Yasser Arafat in Tunis on Wednesday, where he was to lead a Fatah central committee meeting on the peace process.

Middle East Peace: Now It's Up to Assad and Rabin

By Barton Gellman
John Lancaster
Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM — When Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher arrived in the Middle East last week, Israel's historic movement toward peace with its neighbors was stalled. Syria had cut off direct contacts in December, and Israel slammed the brakes on Palestinian self-rule after a January suicide bombing.

Both sets of talks were moving again when Mr. Christopher departed the region Wednesday. The American mission exposed some progress, reached in weeks of

NEWS ANALYSIS

secret contacts between Israeli and Palestinian negotiators, toward elections and a partial withdrawal of the Israeli Army from the occupied West Bank. And President Hafez Assad of Syria consented again

to permit his Washington ambassador to meet with Israel's.

"It's turned out to be one of the most satisfying trips I've made to the Middle East," Mr. Christopher said at the windup of his 11th visit in just over two years.

In many ways the outcome suggested little more than a return to the status quo of late 1994. For that reason, and because many people regard next year's U.S. and Israeli elections as a deadline for politically painful compromise, it is far from clear that tangible accords are in sight.

Two leading Israeli analysts, Shimon Schiffer and Nahum Barnea, described the six-day trip as "a big step for Christopher" and "a small step for the peace process."

But that seemed to understate the psychological boost. After months of obituaries, the peace talks have proved they are still kicking. That, the director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Uri Savir said in an interview, "surprises only those who

See MIDEAST, Page 8

AGENDA

Tietmeyer Kindles Hopes for Rate Cut

PAGE TWO

Uganda's New Prosperity

THE AMERICAS

Page 3

Riding the Radio Waves

BUSINESS/FINANCE

Page 11

A Relapse for the Dollar

Opinion

Page 6

Books

Page 10

Crossword

Page 19

International Classified

Page 13

LONDON (Combined Dispatches) — The current strength of the Deutsche mark may allow the Bundesbank room to cut interest rates on Thursday, the bank's president, Hans Tietmeyer, said in an interview in The Guardian newspaper on Thursday.

His comments gave an immediate lift to the dollar, although they were released well after the New York market had finished trading Wednesday. The dollar rose to 1.3925 Deutsche marks from 1.3895 DM at the New York close.

Mr. Tietmeyer said the Bundesbank's policymaking council would decide Thursday whether the rise in the mark "may give us a little room for reducing rates or whether we have to stay on course."

(Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg)



The EU fishery commissioner, Emma Bonino, speaking Wednesday.

EU and Canada Plan Talks On Fish as Ship Is Released

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The European Union and Canada moved to defuse their rancorous fishing dispute Wednesday as Canada released a Spanish trawler and both sides prepared to resume negotiations over fishing rights.

In Ottawa, Fisheries Minister Brian Tobin said after a special cabinet meeting that both sides had met conditions for a resumption of stalled negotiations.

The Spanish owner of the trawler Estai, whose seizure in international waters off Newfoundland on March 8 triggered the crisis, posted bond in St. John's, Newfoundland, for the boat's release on Wednesday, Mr. Tobin said. Canada had

arrested the captain on charges of illegal fishing.

In addition, he said fishing had stopped in the Grand Banks area beyond Canada's 200-mile (320-kilometer) coastal limit.

Canada has declared a 60-day moratorium on fishing for Greenland halibut, or turbot, in those international waters to protect dwindling stocks, but European countries have refused to recognize the ban.

The permanent representatives of the 15 EU countries shelved any discussion of retaliation at a meeting in Brussels. They called for talks to begin here on March 22 under the auspices of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, or NAFO, the

See BOAT, Page 8

Japan Ignites A Firestorm Over Use of Atom Bombs

By Paul Blustein
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Japan's long-simmering anger over the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki burst to the surface Wednesday as the mayors of those two cities condemned the United States for the nuclear attack, with Nagasaki's mayor likening the 1945 bombings to Hitler's genocidal killing of Jews.

"I think that the atomic bombings were one of the two greatest crimes against humanity in the 20th Century, along with the Holocaust," said Hiroshi Motomura, the Nagasaki mayor, in a speech to the foreign correspondents' club here.

Mr. Motomura, discounting the U.S. argument that the bombings were necessary to bring World War II to a speedy end, said the United States was motivated to drop the bomb in part by the \$2 billion that the weapon cost to develop.

Hiroshima's mayor, Takasaki Hiroaki, speaking at the same forum, also questioned U.S. motives, attributing the bombing to Washington's desire to demonstrate its military power and block Soviet expansion in the Far East.

The mayors' comments offered powerful evidence of the tensions that are rising on both sides of the Pacific as the 50th anniversary of the war's end approaches in August and the gap between the two sides' perceptions of the war grows more obvious.

In recent months, Japanese indignation flared over a U.S. Postal Service plan — subsequently dropped — to issue a stamp commemorating the bombings. Anger also erupted here when the Smithsonian Institution decided against showing an A-bomb exhibit emphasizing the devastation inflicted on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a move widely interpreted in Japan as evidence of America's inability to come to terms with its own war guilt.

Although mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have, for decades, called the bombings unjustified, the comments Wednesday marked an exceptionally harsh official broadside against the atomic attack.

Throughout much of the postwar era, Japanese officials have refrained from accusing the United States of violating international law or morality, partly because of the importance of the Tokyo-Washington alliance, partly because of the national sense that a defeated country should accept its fate. While extremists of both the left and right denounced President Harry S. Truman's decision to use the bomb, the mainstream view here generally held that Japan, as the only nation to suffer nuclear attack, should put aside rancor about Hiroshima and Nagasaki and strive for the elimination of all atomic weapons.

Some of that forgiving tone was expressed Wednesday as the mayors of both cities emphasized that their main purpose was to achieve total nuclear disarmament, not to point fingers.

"In the days and weeks after the atomic bombings," Mr. Motomura said, the survivors "hated the Americans."

"Today, however," he added, "their only feeling now is one of longing toward us."

See JAPAN, Page 8

Dow Jones	Up
Down 10.38	0.96%
4048.37	112.35

The Dollar	Word	Close	Previous Close
DM		1.3895	1.4158
Pound		1.5588	1.5845
Yen		86.50	90.80
FF		4.9398	5.0145

Newsstand Prices	
Andorra	9.00 FF
Antilles	11.20 FF
Cameroon	1.400 CFA
Egypt	E.P. 5000
France	3.00 FF
Gabon	360 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.
Italy	2,600 Lire
Ivory Coast	1,120 CFA
Jordan	1 JD
Lebanon	U.S.S. 1.50
Luxembourg	60 L
Morocco	12 Dh
Oman	8.00 Rials
Reunion	11.20 FF
Saudi Arabia	5.00 R
Senegal	200 CFA
Spain	225 PTAS
Turkey	1,000 Din
Tunisia	1,120 CFA
U.A.E.	8.50 Dirh
U.S. Mail	(\$1.10)

French Cave Paintings Set Off Stone-Throwing Over Ownership

By Dana Thomas
Washington Post Service

PARIS — In mid-January, the Ministry of Culture announced to the world that several hundred Stone Age cave paintings had been discovered in southern France by a government archaeological official, Jean-Marie Chauvet. Pictures of the 20,000-year-old paintings were published on front pages and magazine covers, broadcast on television news programs, even zapped over the Internet. The world was mesmerized.

Now comes reality. And the lawyers. At that original news conference, Minister of Culture Jacques Toubon told reporters that the govern-

ment was going to buy the property where the caves situated, nearly 15 hectares (38 acres) of a 75-hectare farm in the department of Ardèche. But the government had never mentioned this to the farm's owners. And the owners do not want to sell.

"It's the land of our ancestors," said the owners' son, Pierre Coulanges. "We've owned that property 600 years. And there's a family cemetery on the piece the government wants. It's fine that there's a great discovery. It's normal that the government wants to protect it. But we want to keep it."

Too bad, says the government. Either the Coulanges family sells at a reasonable price, "or the government can expropriate the property," says Bernard Notari, the Ministry of Culture's technical counsel for heritage and museums.

In addition to property problems, there is the question of marketing. "Will the family have a percentage of all the souvenirs?" asks the Coulanges' lawyer, Caroline de Foresta. "Or will the state give the owner the rights to copy and sell the products?"

As of now, there are no answers. Prime Minister Edouard Balladur "came to the little village where the caves are and shook hands with Mr. Chauvet a month ago," says Miss de Foresta. "And since then the government has shut down. The lawyers, the Ministry of Culture, no one is answering my calls or letters."

Mr. Notari had no idea whether negotiations were on hold, but did say, "To the family this is a small affair that doesn't require immediate attention."

Meanwhile, Mr. Chauvet and his friends Christian Hillaire and Elieette Brunel-Deschamps have their own legal problems. The three of them found the caves on the Coulanges property, on Dec. 18, after Mr. Chauvet felt a current of air blowing through some rocks on the ground.

On Christmas Eve, with the permission of the Coulanges family, they went back, crawled down a 6½-meter (21-foot) shaft and found the Stone Age treasure. They took pictures. They made a video. They told the French government, which sent its own expert, Jean Clottes, to check it out and photograph it. The Ministry of Culture borrowed Mr. Chauvet's

See CAVE, Page 8

Renascent Uganda | Recovering From the Years of Slaughter and Turmoil

Museveni (Too Firmly?) Brings a New Prosperity

By Stephen Buckley
Washington Post Service

JINJA, Uganda — During the 1980s, this city was dying, its economy crushed during Uganda's brutal and chaotic demise under two dictators. Factories vanished. Farmers languished under oppressive government strictures. New investment and construction halted.

Today, Jinja and its 70,000 residents are thriving. Old factories have reopened, new businesses have blossomed, foreign investment is pouring in, and a construction boom has begun.

Jinja's comeback is a vivid example of this nation's resurrected economy, which grew 8 percent last year — an exceptional performance on a continent where most economies either shrank or grew more slowly than did their populations.

Since 1992, about \$200 million in foreign investment has flowed into Uganda. Many farmers are flourishing as the government has loosened its grip. Uganda's inflation rate, 250 percent in 1987, has plummeted to 5 percent.

The country's 17 million people remain among the world's poorest. But political stability, high prices for coffee crops and a huge influx of donor cash have fueled a resurgence since the dictators Idi Amin and Milton Obote oversaw the slaughter of at least 500,000 Ugandans during the 1970s and early 1980s.

This nation, once a pariah state, has become a darling of Western politicians and donors, who have pledged \$820 million in aid this year, more than in any year before.

"Uganda has definitely come a long way, even though it's got a long way to go," said Mark Ellyne, representative of the International Monetary Fund in Kampala. "A lot of donors are still coming, because they see a country that's really trying to rebuild."

But critics of President Yoweri Museveni, who grabbed power in a coup in 1986, say he has sacrificed democracy for development. They assail him for suppressing opponents and for continuing his ban on political parties, which some politicians decry as an attempt to smother opposition groups before presidential elections in December. Uganda's first such vote in a decade.

In Jinja, Enoka Kiregyera is basking in the nation's newfound economic strength. The 49-year-old farmer hails Mr. Museveni for guiding Uganda's move to a market economy and for encouraging the return of thousands of Indian Ugandan businessmen banished from the country by Mr. Amin during the early 1970s.

MOST of all, Mr. Kiregyera said, he is pleased that Mr. Museveni has led the dismantling of government marketing boards, to which the farmers were forced to sell their coffee, cotton and other produce at exceedingly low prices, and which then exported those goods for a hefty profit. Economic liberalization has made the government's marketing board just another competitor among a slew of exporters. In 1990, there were only four coffee exporters. Now there are 100. Farmers who once earned only 30 percent of their products' ultimate export price now earn 65 percent to 70 percent.

"The real key has been competition," said Mr. Kiregyera, president of the Jinja chapter of the Uganda National Farmers' Association.



Ugandans hauling in the catch: Foreign investment accounts for 16 percent of gross domestic product.

"We get good prices for our goods now. We bring our things to the market, and we have many people who want to buy."

Uganda's success has come after several years of following reforms ordered by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. Those measures included devaluing its currency, freeing up export markets and encouraging foreign investment. Since embracing the changes, Uganda has seen its economy grow by about 5 percent a year.

The government has been especially effective at attracting foreign investment, which had dried up during the Amin and Obote years. Foreign investment made up only 7 percent of the gross domestic product during the 1980s; today it is 16 percent.

Uganda's main lures for foreign businesses have been a vastly simplified bureaucracy and tax-free status for five years for large corporations.

In the last three years, 20 new companies have come to Jinja, according to the town clerk, Charles Katarikawe. Three hotels are scheduled to go up in the city, which is an hour's drive east of Kampala, the capital. A fish-processing plant has opened, and a textile factory is planned.

Economic prosperity has sparked a construction boom here. Formerly vacant lots are stacked with bricks for new homes, a picture that is repeated throughout Uganda.

Haim Gonen, 59, an Israeli, came to Jinja late last year to establish a plant that will process soybeans and sunflower seeds into cooking oil and various foods.

He said he was attracted by Jinja's inexpensive land, cheap labor and benign bureaucracy. He bought about six hectares (15 acres) of land for \$9,000, pays workers \$65 a month and got government approval for his business venture in less than three weeks.

"In my country, I would have to talk to the environmental people and then the religious people and then the fire brigade," Mr. Gonen said. "If I try to start a business like this in Israel, for two or three years I suffer."

Jinja had once been flush with such businesses. Then during the early 1970s, Marshal Amin, as he styled himself, tossed out Ugandans of Indian descent, devastating the economies of cities where Indian Ugandans owned 70 percent of the businesses.

Today, they are back. They have reopened sugar and soap factories and a brewery and have launched a steel enterprise as well as a packaging operation. The sugar refinery employs 7,500 people. More than 5,000 Indian Ugandan entrepreneurs have returned since the mid-1980s to reestablish businesses.

"We came back because we are Ugandans, and our roots are here," said K.P. Eswar, a senior executive of the Madhavi Group, the dominant company in Jinja. "Things are definitely much better. There is security and stability now, and without those things, no businessman is going to risk investing here."

But critics of Mr. Museveni's say he risks Uganda's security and stability by sometimes employing repressive tactics against opponents.

"He is a sanitized version of Pinochet," said Charles Onyango-Obbo, referring to the former Chilean dictator. Mr. Onyango-Obbo is editor of the Monitor, a newspaper often critical of Mr. Museveni, which recently published a poll that found 66.5 percent of respondents did not think they were economically better off than three years ago.

Two years ago, Mr. Museveni's administration banned government agencies from advertising in the Monitor, cutting the paper's ad revenue by 60 percent.

"Museveni has decided that certain things must be done, certain rights frozen for the sake of keeping people focused on the economy," Mr. Onyango-Obbo said, adding that two journalists were arrested late last year.

The government has banned a civic-education group headed by Solomy Balungi Bossa, a prominent Kampala lawyer.

"They accused us of recruiting people for the opposition," she said.

"When he first said no parties, we embraced that as a welcome break after all the ethnic hatred we had suffered," Miss Bossa said. "Now, we need to begin taking steps toward pluralism again. They say that political parties will create instability, but they don't even try it."

In recent months, outbreaks of fighting between rebels and security forces have killed hundreds of Ugandans. Miss Bossa blames this in part on "the bottling up of ideas."

Some Ugandan activists complained that Western donors had not held Mr. Museveni accountable for political abuses. They said the West has ignored such abuses in part because Uganda has an assembly writing a new constitution, and Mr. Museveni has agreed to presidential elections.

"He's been held to a different standard because he brought peace and stability to this country," a high-level U.S. official in Uganda said.

Some in Uganda, however, say it is unrealistic to believe the government can balance democracy and economic development.

"If you have democracy and the people are poor, then they cannot see the direct benefits of democracy," said Razaq Afolabi Olopoenia, an economist at Makerere University in Kampala. "If you try to have full democracy at this stage of development, you may bring back chaos."

Competing Visions
Of Algeria Society
Rip Nation ApartMilitary Chiefs Vow Mosques
Will Never Direct State PolicyBy Nora Boustany
Washington Post Service

ALGIERS — Just before sunrise on the Muslim Sabbath, the muezzin's first call to prayer was the only sound echoing through the Kouba neighborhood of Algiers — until a car bomb shook residents awake. The targeted families of policemen shrieked in terror. But in the darkness nearby, the wives of jailed Islamic militants ululated with joy.

Algeria's bloody struggle — between a determined fundamentalist underground and a discredited secular government based mainly on the military — is replete with such incongruities.

"We are killing one another, and as we self-destruct we can no longer analyze; we are just committing suicide," said Issa Qassemi, Algeria's top police spokesman.

Ashen-faced and unshaven, Mr. Qassemi trembled at the sight of the destruction around him last Friday morning in a residential compound housing the families of policemen mobilized to combat terrorism.

The explosion wounded 63 people, the latest spasm in the violence that has consumed Algeria in the three years since the government canceled elections that Islamic political groups seemed set to win.

Two incompatible plans for Algerian society are tipping this nation apart, but the army-backed leadership has vowed that Algeria will never resemble Iran or Afghanistan and that mosques will never dictate government policy.

Interior Minister Abderrahmane Meziane-Cherif was categorical as he puffed on a cigar: "Never will Algeria live like Iran, Afghanistan or Sudan. We don't look like those countries, and we are geographically closer to the West. It would be like going back to the Spanish Inquisition."

"It is not the mosques who will lead the presidency," he stressed.

But exactly who leads the presidency of Liamine Zerrouk, a military man not comfortable with politicians, remains a mystery.

Three cabinet ministers said in interviews that they felt there was no trust among the populace in the current state leadership.

In Mr. Meziane-Cherif's view, Algeria is doing the dirty work of other Arab and European countries who also are threatened by terrorism.

The stability of Algeria, flanked by Tunisia and Morocco, has become a worry for European nations on the other side of the Mediterranean. France has 800,000 Algerians and 3 million French citizens of Algerian origin on its soil and sees its destiny linked to that of its former North African colony.

On the surface, the conflict appears simple. What began as a political crisis three years ago with the annulment of elections by the government and the official disbanding of the Islamic Salvation Front, however, has taken on complex cultural and socioeconomic dimensions.

This country of 26 million, in which national identity has been in ferment since it won independence in 1962 after 130 years of French rule, is still in the stage of awkward transition from 30 years of one-party rule to a multiparty system.

An interrupted democratic process, begun when a new constitution in 1989 authorized political parties, appears doomed as the security situation deteriorates.

One segment of the population argues that the outcome of elections that gave the Islamic militants an edge over the traditional National Liberation

Front and Front for Socialist Forces should have been allowed to continue. Others argue that the Islamic Front should never have been legalized and given the taste of power.

The Armed Islamic Group and other militant splinter groups have drawn social battle lines in an attempt to dislodge a government that has excluded them from participation. Anyone perceived as linked in any way to the state, mainly the security forces, is sanctioned by these groups as a target for terror.

In all, 3,000 members of the security forces have been killed since the crisis began, the interior minister said.

Leading intellectuals, filmmakers, singers, journalists and university professors also are being targeted and killed "to publicize the cause," an Algerian said. "It is to scare us and to force us to choose."

A bid by the present government to organize new presidential elections by the end of this year is seen by opposition parties and Islamic fundamentalists as an attempt to legitimize a repressive government.

Last September, a group of Islamic militants sent an open letter to Mr. Zerrouk alleging 36 summary executions in 1994. Mourad Benachenech, minister of industrial restructuring, responded to such accusations, however, by insisting that "the army is doing its job, protecting its citizens."

"This is an exceptional situation," he said, "and we don't want anarchy to take charge."

In pamphlets, the Armed Islamic Group has threatened death to anyone who votes in the election.

Sagging oil prices and years of mismanagement of public companies are in part responsible for an economy that has left young people feeling left out of the job market. Racketeering and anarchy are imposing their own cruel rules on Algeria's society, and society is beginning to take matters into its own hands.

"Violence begins with a well-known source with reasonable or identifiable objectives, but the longer it lasts, the more confusing it becomes, the more blind and the more uncontrollable," said Abdel Hamid Mehri, secretary general of the National Liberation Front, who signed a national contract with other political parties, including the opposition and the Islamic Front, in Rome in January.

The government has rejected the document, which condemns the use of violence by all sides, saying it does not commit armed groups not under Islamic Front control to abandon terrorism.

Britain Suggests
Mediation by EU

Reuters

PARIS — Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd of Britain has called for a European Union initiative to try to end the conflict between Algeria's army-backed government and Muslim fundamentalists.

But, in an interview to be published by the French daily Le Figaro on Thursday, he also expressed skepticism that anything effective could be done.

Mr. Hurd said that diplomacy appeared to be the only way of trying to prevent Algeria's civil strife from turning into a disaster.

"I would gladly approve a European initiative that would prevent a disaster by allowing talks between Algerians of all opinions," he said.

"But, under current circumstances, it is difficult to consider any solution other than the tactical."

U.S. Airlines Take the Food Out of Flying

By Anthony Faiola
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Airlines in the United States are trimming fat from their in-flight food budgets.

Today, the chances of getting breakfast, lunch or dinner aboard a domestic flight of less than two hours are slim, a survey of seven major carriers shows. Even a costly first-class ticket, once the boarding pass to an airline's approximation of elegant dining, no longer guarantees a traveler more than a cocktail and a bag of honey-roasted peanuts.

But on international flights, U.S. carriers are charting the opposite course, embellishing their menus to compete with finer dining aboard foreign carriers. United Airlines, for example, juiced up food on transcontinental flights on March 1, adding salmon dishes, cheese and crackers and a wider variety of wines. The company, said Larry DeShon, director of catering, used money it saved from cutbacks on domestic service to finance the upgrades.

"It's essential to stay competitive food-wise on our international routes," Mr. DeShon said. "Food is a very visible

element of airline service. It doesn't pay not to keep up."

Most major domestic carriers have retooled their meal service over the last six months, and now some are rethinking the whole process of how they serve those meals. To save on distribution costs, for instance, American Airlines last month started handing out bagged breakfasts and lunches at ticket gates inside four airports, including Washington National and Baltimore Washington International.

Facing renewed competition from no-frills carriers, airline food — which had become the travelers' oxymoron — was the obvious place to cut, analysts say. Food budgets are more flexible than fuel and payroll budgets. But the trick, major carriers have found, is to find ways to trim the food without robbing full-service carriers of a perk that distinguishes them from cut-rate competitors.

"The Southwests and Valu-Jets of the world are forcing the airlines into a situation where they must innovate, and food is one of those rare aspects of the airline industry that is relatively easy to cut," said Joan Strahler, vice president of TravelScan, a Washington consulting firm.

"Let's face it, how many people do you know board a plane because they're just dying to eat airline food?"

On domestic long-haul flights, major airlines continue to offer food service, though less often than a year ago. On some short domestic routes with a large volume of business travelers — such as TWA's flights from Washington to St. Louis and United's flights from Chicago to Minneapolis — meals are still included. But, for the most part these days, less food is the rule.

The major carriers now do not serve food on most flights of less than two hours. In first class, food is often not served on flights of less than 250 miles, and on economy-class trips of less than 500 miles.

Breakfast is usually served only on flights that take off before 8:30 A.M., lunch on flights taking off between 11:30 A.M. and 1:15 P.M., and dinner on flights between 5:30 and 7:30 P.M., the airlines say.

To change the image of airline food from something that requires prayer before eating, major carriers have turned to cold foods, such as deli sandwiches and salads, and even name-brand foods from such companies as McDonald's.

Food service accounts for a significant portion of airline expenses. At USAir, for instance, domestic and international catering cost the company \$169 million in 1994, or 8 percent of its total operating expenses. That is higher than the industry average, which hovers around 4 or 5 percent. But by cutting food expenses on many flights, USAir trimmed its food per passenger by 27 percent over the past three years, from \$4.32 a passenger to \$3.15.

Continental Airlines, with help from its Continental Lite flights that eliminated most food service, has cut in half the amount it spends on food per passenger since 1991, dropping from \$6.35 to \$3.25. Indeed, with the exception of TWA, every major U.S. carrier slashed food costs on domestic routes over the past three years, according to TravelScan.

"These cycles have happened in the past," said Harold Sirkin, vice president of Boston Consulting Group, a management firm. "In the mid-80s, we saw airlines try to do the same thing. But customers complained, and eventually, the airlines had to bring the food back. We'll have to wait and see how passengers respond this time around."

TRAVEL UPDATE

Door Lock Is Cited in Ferry Sinking

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Investigators have concluded that a weak door lock was one of the main reasons that an Estonian ferry sank last year, killing more than 900 people, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

The lower lock of the bow door, a huge door that swung up to allow cars and trucks to be driven into the ferry, was too weak to withstand extremely heavy pounding by rough seas, according to a report by the international investigating commission.

"The locking device was not designed as strongly as it should have been, according to the calculations," the newspaper Dagbladet Nyheter reported, quoting from the unreleased report.

The German airline Deutsche BA will stop flying between Frankfurt and Paris on March 25. A spokesman in Frankfurt said that several weeks after the airline began its service last April, two competitors, Lufthansa AG and Air France, increased the frequency of their flights on the same route. Deutsche BA is 49 percent owned by British Airways. (Bloomberg)

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines will increase its intercontinental flights this summer. The airline said it would operate 6,350 intercontinental flights in its summer schedule, which lasts from March 26 to Oct. 8, up 300 from the previous summer. Starting June 27, KLM will fly to Memphis, Tennessee. (Bloomberg)

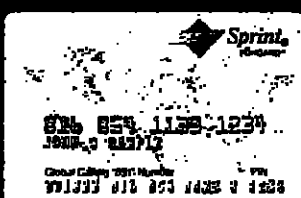
The British cross-Channel ferry company Meridian has been bought out and will hire all-British crews to replace its Polish workers, said the company's director-general, Paul Desgris. The moves follow demands by French seamen's unions that the two Bahamas-registered ferries that travel between England and France employ crews from the European Union.

Mr. Desgris did not name the buyer, but said the deal was struck overnight Tuesday. The British crews would take over in May, he added. (AFP)

Fiji's tourism earnings jumped 15.4 percent in 1994, the Bureau of Statistics said Wednesday.

The bureau attributed the rise to the record number of people who visited Fiji in 1994. The number of tourists jumped 10.9 percent, to 318,874. (Reuters)

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American Samoa	633-1000	Cyprus	003-022-01	Finland	1-800-435-2501	Guatemala	003-022-01	Indonesia	003-022-01
Antigua (radio/telex)	80	Czech Republic	002-002-187	France	1-800-435-2501	Honduras	003-022-01	Iran	003-022-01
Aruba (pay phone)	1-800-366-4663	Denmark	004-002-187	Germany	1-800-435-2501	India	003-022-01	Italy	003-022-01
Argentina	001-800-777-1111	Dominican Republic	1-800-777-8777	Greece	006-65-877	Japan	003-022-01	Japan	003-022-01
Australia	8-1-85	Ecuador	171	Hungary	003-022-01	Kenya	003-022-01	Kenya	003-022-01
Australia (Dialup)	1-800-331-10	El Salvador	003-022-01	Ireland	003-022-01	Laos	003-022-01	Laos	003-022-01
Australia (Fax)	1-800-881-877	Equatorial Guinea	003-022-01	Israel	003-022-01	Malaysia	003-022-01	Malaysia	003-022-01
Austria	022-903-014	Egypt	003-022-01	Italy	003-022-01	Mexico	003-022-01	Mexico	003-022-01
Bahamas	1-800-389-9111	Egypt (Satellite)	003-022-01	Japan	003-022-01	Morocco	003-022-01	Morocco	003-022-01
Bahamas	800-777	Finland	003-022-01	Korea	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Barbados	1-800-877-8000	France	003-022-01	Korea (Satellite)	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Belgium	0800-10014	Germany	003-022-01	Laos	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Bermuda	1-800-423-0877	Greece	006-65-877	Lebanon	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Bolivia	1-800-723-333	Guatemala	003-022-01	Lithuania	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Brazil	000-800	Honduras	003-022-01	Luxembourg	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
British Virgin Islands	1-800-877-8000	India	003-022-01	Malaysia	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Bulgaria	00-800-1010	Indonesia	003-022-01	Mexico	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Canada	1-800-877-8000	Iran	003-022-01	Morocco	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Chile	00-0217	Ireland	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
China	00-123-010	Israel	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Colombia	003-022-01	Italy	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
Costa Rica	003-022-01	Japan	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01	Netherlands	003-022-01
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THE AMERICAS

POLITICAL NOTES

Republicans Face Hard Choices

WASHINGTON — The House Ways and Means Committee has approved the Republicans' tax-cut bill, a cornerstone of their "Contract With America" that would lower taxes by almost \$200 billion over the next five years.

But the action was tempered by the first signs of trouble in the Republicans' promise to compensate for the tax cuts by cutting spending.

Party leaders had to concede that they were hard-pressed to win support for even a first, modest round of spending reductions.

Republicans have asserted that they will pay for the tax cuts with equivalent spending reductions so that the deficit will not be worsened, but they have never specified how they will do so.

Opposition to the spending cuts began to gel as lawmakers realized how their own districts would be affected. (NYT)



Greg Gihon/The Associated Press

President Bill Clinton waving a "spork" — half spoon, half fork — which, he jokingly told journalists, was his solution to the controversial school-lunch issue.

Thrifty Clinton Unveils Innovation

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton has some novel ideas for cutting the government bureaucracy, like putting national holidays up for corporate sponsorship.

With tongue firmly in cheek, Mr. Clinton reeled off his suggestions at the annual dinner of Washington's Radio and Television Correspondents Association.

It all began, he said, as he and Vice President Al Gore spent a Saturday afternoon brainstorming on how to shrink government and save money.

The president waved in the air a white plastic spoon with fork tines attached.

That, he said, represented his and Mr. Gore's best idea for compromise on the school-lunch program, which the Republican majority in Congress contends is wastefully administered.

"This is a spork," the president said.

"This is a symbol of my administration," he continued.

"No more false choices between right utensil and left utensil."

"This is not an ideological choice."

"The is a big, new idea — the spork." (AP)

Senate Seeks a Milder Ban on Rules

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans say they may give up on trying to pass legislation to impose a moratorium on new federal regulations.

Instead, they may seek to pass an alternative that would give Congress 45 days to veto any new rules.

"We're looking at other proposals," said the Government Affairs Committee chairman, William V. Roth Jr., Republican of Delaware, whose panel only last week approved the moratorium by a 6-to-5, party-line vote.

The regulatory moratorium was the second major proposal of the House Republicans' "Contract With America" to undergo emergency legislative surgery in the Senate in less than a week, underscoring the difficulty that House-approved initiatives are having in the more cautious and skeptical Senate.

The other proposal — involving "line-item veto" authority for the president to cut specific items from spending bills — appeared to be moving toward a partial resolution, although it remained a long way from passage. (WP)

Quote/Unquote

Representative Jim McDermott, Democrat of Washington, on the strategy of Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee to drop nearly 100 amendments they had planned to offer in an effort to slow the Republican tax bill:

"It wouldn't make any difference if we put up an amendment to have the American flag be red, white and blue with 50 stars, we couldn't pass it." (LAT)

Away From Politics

• The U.S. Judicial Conference, which sets policy for the nation's federal courts, has rejected a rule change that would have made it far easier to seal court records from public view. In other action, the conference, which is made up of top federal judges from around the nation, opened the door to an experiment allowing cameras in federal courtrooms. (WP)

• The military knew there were serious health risks of radioactive fallout from nuclear bomb testing in 1951 and, although a safer site was available, chose to explode weapons near populated areas in Nevada to get better data on where the fallout would go, according to documents uncovered by the President's Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments. (NYT)

• Yale University said it would return a \$20 million gift to Lee M. Bass, a Texas financier and 1979 Yale alumnus. The announcement followed a series of articles in the Wall Street Journal capped by a scathing editorial that lambasted the Connecticut university for failing to carry out a Western civilization curriculum mandated in the 1991 donation. (LAT)

• President Bill Clinton has nominated a veteran of the Gulf War and son of a Marine Corps general to be the next commandant of the Marines. The officer, Lieutenant General Charles C. Krulak, 53, would succeed General Carl E. Mundy. (NYT)

• California got a break from torrential rain that left behind dark, oozing mud, gushing streams, swollen reservoirs and 14 people dead. No rain was expected in Northern California until the weekend. (AP)

Mexico to Pull Back Soldiers in Chiapas

By Tim Golden
New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — Hoping to entice peasant rebels in the southern state of Chiapas to join new peace talks, the Mexican government says it will move army troops out of villages within the territory formerly controlled by the insurgents.

A spokesman for the Interior Ministry also said Tuesday that the government would formally suspend arrest warrants issued last month against six accused

leaders of the Zapatista National Liberation Army.

The promised troop movements appeared to represent a more significant concession than government officials had indicated the army was prepared to make in order to revive negotiations on a settlement to the 15-month-old conflict. At the same time, the redeployment fell short of the insurgents' demand for a full-scale withdrawal of the thousands of soldiers who swept into the area on Feb. 9, and some observers were skeptical that it would have the desired effect.

Out-of-Work Politicians Find Their Roost: Talk Radio

By Sam Howe Verhovek
New York Times Service

DENVER — Last year, nearly a dozen talk-radio hosts from around the country tried to jump from their studios to spots in Congress, most unsuccessfully. But for former politicians trying to vault to the other side of the microphone, the trip seems to be much easier.

Gary Hart, the former U.S. senator from Colorado, has just started "Heartland," a weekly program he describes as "thoughtful" talk radio.

"No screaming and shouting," he says, just serious, in-depth conversations with poets, non-fiction writers, journalists and an occasional politician.

Three other erstwhile presidential candidates — Ross Perot and former Governors Edmund G. (Jerry) Brown of California and L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia — have more traditional call-in shows, with screaming and shouting. Oliver L. North, an unsuccessful Senate candidate from Virginia last year, joined the fray this week, and former Governor Lowell P. Weicker Jr. of Connecticut is starting a program next month. Mario

M. Cuomo says he, too, will soon have a program — "not talk-talk, but thought-talk radio," promises the former New York governor.

Why are so many former politicians getting on the airwaves?

"Because they're out of work, for one," said Michael Harrison, editor of Talkers, a trade publication for the talk-radio industry.

"And two," he said, "because they have bought into the notion that simply by being on talk radio one can easily build a power base and exert influence on public policy. Many of them are in for a big surprise, because just being on the radio doesn't guarantee those results."

To be sure, with the number of talk-format stations having quadrupled in the last decade, many politicians contend that talk radio is an increasingly important way to communicate and to inject their views into the public debate.

But others are less high-minded about it all. Talk radio, they say, is fun. It's even liberating.

"Politics and doing talk radio are almost at odds," said former Representative Ben Jones, who unsuccessfully tried to regain his congressional seat in Georgia from Newt Gingrich last

year and who is now an occasional host on WGST-AM in Atlanta.

"Politicians are so unctuous as a rule, always trying to please and not offend," Mr. Jones said. "It's fun as a former politician to be able to go on; when someone calls in and you're not worried about their vote, you can just tell them to kiss" a part of the host's anatomy.

Just how successful these programs will be, in many cases, remains to be seen. Mr. Hart and Mr. Wilder, for instance, are broadcast only from stations in their home states for now, although their programs' producers hope to syndicate them nationally later.

Equally compelling is the question of whether the slower-paced format advocated by people like Mr. Hart and Mr. Cuomo can succeed.

"My approach requires a paragraph and not a slogan," said Mr. Cuomo, who had a monthly call-in program when he was governor. "If you do shibboleths, the other side has all the advantage."

Mr. Hart insisted that many people had told him they appreciated his format, which so far has not included solicitation of calls from his listeners. Having Fred holding on line three about the

deficit and June on line six demanding to talk about the death penalty is just too distracting, he said.

He also vehemently rejected suggestions from some experts that programs like his might be doomed because however good politicians are at talking, a good talk-radio host also has to know how to listen.

"If I had any genius at all in politics — and I probably didn't — it was listening," he said. "I was a great listener."

Many of the recent entrants and soon-to-be entrants into talk radio are Democrats — Mr. Brown, Mr. Cuomo, Mr. Hart, Mr. Jones and Mr. Wilder, for example — but Republicans are represented with Mr. North and Patrick J. Buchanan. Mr. Weicker and Mr. Perot are independents.

Talk radio appears to have thrived in part on anger, although that has never adequately explained why conservative-oriented programs are more successful than those from the other side of the spectrum. Liberals can get just as mad.

"I went into the Jesuit seminary 35 years ago because I thought the world was going to hell," said Mr. Brown, who later emerged to become governor of California. "It still is."

Simpson Defense Pursues Suggestion That Detective Is Racist

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LOS ANGELES — A police detective, Mark Fuhrman, testified at O. J. Simpson's trial Wednesday that he never used a racial slur against blacks in the last decade and said anybody who suggested he had was a liar.

"You say under oath that you have not addressed any black person as a nigger or spoken about black people as niggers in the past 10 years, Detective Fuhrman?" asked F. Lee Bailey, one of Mr. Simpson's defense attorneys.

"That's what I'm saying, sir," Mr. Fuhrman responded in the

monotone that has marked his testimony.

Mr. Bailey pressed the detective, asking, "So that anyone who comes to this court and quotes you as using that word in dealing with African-Americans would be a liar, would they not, Detective Fuhrman?"

"Yes, they would," Mr. Fuhrman said.

"All of them?"

"All of them," the detective said.

Before the cross-examination on Wednesday, Judge Lance A. Ito heard bitter arguments between Mr. Bailey and the lead prosecutor, Marcia Clark, but

would not let the defense immediately question Mr. Fuhrman about whether he uttered the racial epithet to a black Marine, Sergeant Max Cordoba.

The defense has suggested that Mr. Fuhrman is a racist who hates blacks, particularly those who associate with white women, and that he may have framed Mr. Simpson in the June 12 slayings of his former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald L. Goldman. Mr. Simpson, a former football star, is black. His late wife and Mr. Goldman were white.

Judge Ito restricted the de-

fense's cross-examination of Mr. Fuhrman after Ms. Clark accused Mr. Bailey of lying about his conversation with Sergeant Cordoba.

Mr. Bailey, red-faced and so mad the judge had to tell him to "control yourself, sir," had pleaded with Judge Ito to reconsider his decision. The judge refused to budge, telling Mr. Bailey, "Don't press it."

Mr. Bailey defended himself against the accusation that he had lied when he said in court Tuesday that he had spoken "Marine to Marine" with Sergeant Cordoba. In an interview broadcast Tuesday night on the

NBC News program "Dateline," the sergeant said he had never spoken with Mr. Bailey.

Judge Ito also refused to let the defense use as an exhibit a glove stuffed into a plastic bag to try to illustrate that Mr. Fuhrman could have transported a bloody glove from the crime scene in a bag stuffed into his sock.

Outlining his theory with the jury out of the courtroom, the defense lawyer contended that Mr. Fuhrman had the "motive and the opportunity" to tamper with evidence to implicate Mr. Simpson in the slayings.

Mr. Bailey suggested that

Mr. Fuhrman picked up a glove at the murder scene while no one was looking, put it in a small plastic bag and then hid it in one of his socks. When Mr. Fuhrman went to the Simpson estate two miles away, he would have had the opportunity to drop the glove on a walkway behind a guesthouse and claim later that he had found it there.

Ms. Clark noted that the glove the defense wanted to use was a small glove, while the gloves found in the Simpson case were extra-large. "Size small," she said. "I guess it's Mr. Bailey's." (AP, Reuters)



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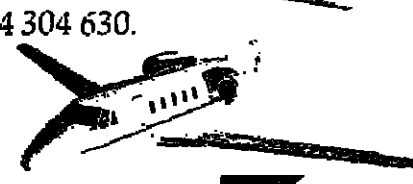
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ASIA

Ramos Predicts Sharp Decline in Philippine Poverty

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The Philippine president, Fidel V. Ramos, predicted Wednesday that the rapid growth of his country's economy would radically reduce the poverty rate by the end of his term in 1998.

Forty-five percent of Filipinos now live below the poverty line. By the time he leaves office, Mr. Ramos said, the rate may be as low as 20 percent.

The president called his country's economic performance a vindication for Philippine-style democracy. Growth is expected to be as high as 6.5 percent this year.

"What we are trying to say is that economic growth and sustainable development is possible

under a democratic framework in the Asia-Pacific region," Mr. Ramos said in an interview. "We would be happy to transfer this technology to others who are interested."

While conceding that democracy was far from the easy course and that indeed it imposed a "short term handicap" on efforts to achieve rapid growth, he forecast that in the long run democratic systems would win out.

Mr. Ramos contrasted Philippine democracy with the authoritarian political systems in place in much of the region and contended that there may yet be a price to be paid for those closed systems.

"Unless a political system has continuity, transparency and predictability over the long term, that country might be in trouble," he said.

He also contrasted the approach of the Philippines — from dealing with its various political and religious rebel groups to policies toward bridging the gap between rich and poor — with those of some of its neighbors.

"We have a peace process going on with our resistance that some countries don't have," Mr. Ramos said. "And we have massively addressed poverty."

Specifically, he cited the government's successes in breaking up cartels that had dominated the economy for decades and the placement of 10 percent of the proceeds of large-scale privatizations in various social "safety net" programs.

As for the rebels, the president noted that negotiations with Muslim groups were continuing to make progress, while the head of the

military rebel group had recently disarmed and announced his candidacy for the Senate.

The first face-to-face negotiations on another thorny issue, territorial claims by China to Mischief Reef in the South China Sea, within the Philippines' 200-mile exclusive economic zone, are set to begin on Sunday, Mr. Ramos conceded that the climate leading up to the bilateral talks was only "slightly favorable."

He called China's claims to vast stretches of the South China Sea a "regional" problem, but said he had not been disappointed over the lack of public backing from other members of the Association of South East Asian Nations for Manila's position. Mr. Ramos said several of those governments had expressed support privately.



The Tibet official Raiki speaking in Beijing, where he ruled out any possible referendum on China's control of Tibet.

Backers of Beijing In Tibet Reject Vote Dalai Lama's Referendum Plan Is Called a Ploy to Split China

Agence France-Press

BEIJING — A high-ranking official criticized a plan by the Dalai Lama for a referendum among Tibetans on their campaign for independence, saying Wednesday it was a "mean trick" aimed at splitting China.

"The Tibet Autonomous Region is an autonomous region under the sovereignty of China, so the question of holding a referendum here simply does not arise," said Raiki, the chairman of the Tibet People's Congress's standing committee.

"Tibet is an inalienable part of China," he added. "The proposed referendum is only a mean trick by the Dalai clique and some anti-China Western forces to split China. This is entirely out of the question."

The Tibetan spiritual leader, who has been in exile in India since fleeing his homeland with many followers after a failed anti-Chinese revolt on March 1959, called last week for Tibetans to prepare for a referendum.

In a statement released to mark the 36th anniversary of the uprising, he also warned that Beijing's refusal to negotiate with him could lead to violence in Tibet.

The warning by the Dalai Lama, who himself has always rejected the use of force, came amid rising tension before the 30th anniversary in September of China's decision to set up the

autonomous region, 14 years after its military takeover of Tibet.

Unconfirmed reports have detailed numerous demonstrations and arrests of monks and nuns in recent months, while human rights groups have cited classified government documents as saying security forces are on alert amid fears of a separatist campaign to sabotage anniversary celebrations.

Mr. Raiki offered little hope Wednesday of the possibility of any change in Beijing's policy on negotiations. He said that, while the "central government has always kept the door open in this regard," the Dalai Lama had "created obstacles."

"Once the Dalai Lama renounces his position of Tibetan independence and entirely stops all his activities aimed at splitting China, the central government will be happy to see him putting an end to his self-exile at an early date," he said.

He could then "come back to China to do something useful and good for the prosperity and happiness of the Tibetan people," he said.

Mr. Raiki acknowledged that "since September 1987, there have been many uprisings in the province of Tibet on different scales," but he maintained that "the majority of people in Tibet, including monks and lamas, are firmly opposed to separatist activities and that has always been their position."

Breaking Taboo, China to Weigh Legal Euthanasia

Agence France-Press

BEIJING — China's Parliament is to study a motion to legalize euthanasia, despite strong opposition to the practice, which goes against deep-rooted Chinese traditions.

The motion, presented by more than 30 deputies to the National People's Congress, calls for a law that would allow technically advanced hospitals in large cities to carry out euthanasia on terminally ill patients, the official Xinhua press agency said Wednesday.

The operation would require the approval of two medical experts and would only be used to "alleviate the suffering of patients and their relatives, and to safeguard the dignity of life," the agency reported.

Euthanasia must be requested by the patient and must receive the permission of relatives, according to the motion submitted by congressional deputies from Beijing and Hubei and Fujian provinces.

The issue of mercy killing became a hot media topic after a 54-year-old was sentenced to three years in jail last week for having helped his wife commit suicide.

The man was cleared of murder after the discovery of a note that his wife had written absolving him of responsibility. His sentence was for abetting a suicide.

The case set off heated discussions on radio talk shows, with many callers emphasizing the traditional Chinese concept that the body is a gift from the parents and therefore cannot be destroyed at will.

"Euthanasia is likely to be regarded as betraying tradition, and may cause resentment among those who argue that a bad life is better than a happy death," said Hu Yamei, a supporter of the motion and the honorary president of the Beijing Children's Hospital.

Last year, a major hospital in Beijing declared its willingness

to perform euthanasia once the practice was legalized.

Apart from the moral implications, the question of euthanasia is complicated by the lack of a specific definition in China for what constitutes death. This is especially important in the case of patients who are kept alive after their brains have

ceased to function.

Even Fellow Asians Attack Courts in Singapore

By Philip Shenon
New York Times Service

MANILA — The government of Singapore, which has tried to portray the debate over its draconian legal system as a clash between Asian and Western values, now finds its courts under attack by fellow Asians who are campaigning to prevent the execution of a Philippine woman later this week.

Leading Philippine politicians, human rights groups and church leaders are demanding that Singapore stay the execution of Flor Contemplacion, a Philippine maid who is scheduled to be hanged on Friday for the deaths of another maid and a 4-year-old Singaporean boy in 1991.

President Fidel V. Ramos has joined in the appeals, asking that Singaporean prosecutors reopen the case because of new testimony suggesting that Mrs. Contemplacion was framed, and that the other Philippine maid was actually killed by her

vengeful Singaporean employer after the boy had accidentally drowned.

The testimony is coming from a third maid, Emilia Frenilla, who has since returned home to the Philippines. Mrs. Frenilla has said that the boy drowned in a bathtub after suffering an epileptic fit, and that the boy's outraged father then killed the maid, Della Maga, who was supposed to be caring for the child.

According to her testimony, Mrs. Frenilla eavesdropped on members of the boy's family as they decided to pin both deaths on Mrs. Contemplacion, who was a friend of Mrs. Maga's. Jaime Cardinal Sin, the head of the Roman Catholic Church in this predominantly Roman Catholic country, has said he will ask Pope John Paul II to intervene with the Singaporean government to save Mrs. Contemplacion from the gallows.

The case has made for banner headlines in newspapers in Manila for weeks, turning this into the Philippine equivalent of last year's furor over the flogging of a U.S. teenager, Michael P. Fay, who pleaded guilty to vandalism in Singapore.

At the time of the Fay case, Singaporean officials argued that their critics in the United States and elsewhere in the West did not understand Asian values, which, the Singaporeans say, demand strict law enforcement and a preference for the rights of society over the rights of an individual.

But the reaction in the Philippines, human rights groups and church leaders are demanding that Singapore stay the execution of Flor Contemplacion, a Philippine maid who is scheduled to be hanged on Friday for the deaths of another maid and a 4-year-old Singaporean boy in 1991.

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One Last Voyage for Asia's Refugees

UN Wants Indochinese Still in Camps to Return Home

Agence France-Press

GENEVA — Thirty countries are expected to rule here Thursday that 60,000 Vietnamese and Laotians living in Asian refugee camps no longer qualify for international aid and should return home.

The refugees, in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Thailand and elsewhere, are the remnants of the more than 1.2 million people who fled Communist Indochina since 1975.

Most of those who survived were given asylum in Western countries, including Australia, Britain, Canada, France, New Zealand and the United States after passing through the refugee camps.

Those who are left, usually the more recent arrivals, are classified as "economic migrants" seeking a better material life overseas and they are not

considered to be political refugees.

EUROPE

Russian Budget Clears Way for IMF Loan

MOSCOW — Russia's Parliament approved the 1995 budget on Wednesday, and Finance Minister Vladimir G. Panskov said the decision meant Russia had moved on to a "civilized path of development."

The State Duma, the lower house of Parliament, approved the draft budget, 289 to 81 with no abstentions, on its fourth and final reading, clearing another hurdle to a \$6.4 billion standby loan from the International Monetary Fund.

"Passing the budget in the Duma means the country has moved onto a civilized

path of development," Mr. Panskov said after the vote.

The budget envisages expenditure of 248.34 trillion rubles (\$53 billion) and income of 175.16 trillion rubles for a deficit of 73.18 trillion rubles.

Mr. Panskov said the deficit, originally put at 7.8 percent of gross domestic product, would in fact be 5.6 percent, as GDP would be greater than first calculated.

Passing, and sticking to, a tight 1995 budget has been a key condition for Moscow's winning the standby loan, which will be used to plug the deficit.

The IMF's managing director, Michel

Camdessus, in Moscow last week to sign an agreement on the loan, gave his blessing to the government's economic program.

He said he was sure the IMF board would give final approval for the loan in early April.

First Deputy Prime Minister Anatoli B. Chubais said the key task now was ensuring the budget was met.

The government and central bank said Tuesday that they would seek to cut monthly inflation to one percent by the second half of the year. February's rate was 11 percent.

BRIEFLY EUROPE



President Fidel Castro of Cuba sightseeing in Paris on Wednesday.

Castro Accedes on Rights

PARIS (Reuters) — President Fidel Castro of Cuba, rejecting accusations that he sanctions violent repression in Cuba, on Wednesday invited a French human-rights group to visit Cuba to investigate conditions for political prisoners.

But Mr. Castro, 68, on his first visit to France, turned down a plea by President François Mitterrand's wife, Danielle, to abolish the death penalty, saying the Caribbean island faced too many threats, including a "criminal and unjust" U.S. embargo.

At their meeting, Mrs. Mitterrand gave Mr. Castro a list of 43 political detainees in Cuba. "I have promised to examine the cases," Mr. Castro said, adding that a human-rights delegation was welcome to visit and examine the prisoners' "situation" as soon as possible.

Council Hears Rushdie

LONDON (Reuters) — The British writer Salman Rushdie came out of hiding on Wednesday to address a meeting of Parliament members from the Council of Europe.

Mr. Rushdie, who has been living for six years under an Iranian death sentence imposed for blasphemy against Islam in his novel "The Satanic Verses," appeared at a meeting of the 34-nation political group flanked by officers from an elite British police squad.

The council, meeting in London for two days, was due to adopt a resolution expressing deep concern over the death edict and condemning the incitation to murder constituted by the decree and the huge reward offered to Muslims to carry it out.

Lockerbie Probe Urged

STRASBOURG (Reuters) — Relatives of Britons killed in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Scotland asked the European Commission on Wednesday to investigate the disaster, especially the question of airport security.

"Six years after the offense no one has been tried for the bombing," says a statement explaining a petition presented to the European Parliament by U.K. Families Flight 103, named after the London-to-New York flight.

The petition asks the European Union assembly to push the commission to make a

statement about the bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, which killed 259 passengers and 11 people on the ground.

Slovenia-EU Talks Begin

BRUSSELS (AP) — Slovenia on Wednesday became the first former Yugoslav republic to open talks with the European Union for an accord that should open the way to eventual EU membership.

Foreign Minister Zoran Thaler of Slovenia began talks at EU headquarters 10 days after Italy dropped its veto on negotiations with its neighbor. Mr. Thaler said the trade and cooperation accord could be concluded before June, placing Slovenia at the front of a line of nations waiting to join the EU.

Calendar

European Union events, Thursday, March 16:

BRUSSELS: Meeting between the EU commissioners, Sir Leon Brittan, in charge of external trade and relations with industrialized countries, Karel van Miert, in charge of competition, and Vladimir Dlouhy, the Czech Republic's industry minister.

BRUSSELS: Sir Leon meets with Francis Doherty, president of the European group for the promotion of international trade.

EPINAL, France: Franz Fischler, the EU agriculture commissioner, makes a speech at the French National Federation of Farmers' Unions.

STRASBOURG: The European Commission will make a declaration on recent monetary problems during a meeting of the European Parliament. The Council and the commission will discuss the nuclear power station in Mochovce, Slovakia.

BRUSSELS: Jacques Santer, president of the European Commission, meets Alwinde de Vos Van Steenwijk, president of the international movement ATD Fourth World.

GENEVA: Anita Gracín, commissioner for immigration and judicial affairs, will visit the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Sources: Agence Europe, AFP.

Thousands Go Hungry In Bihac

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Refusal of Serbs and their allies to let the United Nations feed tens of thousands of hungry people in the Bihac pocket is causing widespread hunger and malnutrition, aid officials said Wednesday.

Alemta Lisinski, a UN aid agency spokeswoman, said supplies brought in by the last food convoy, on Feb. 28, had been distributed to the most vulnerable of 200,000 needy in the enclave, the site of stubborn fighting between government troops, Bosnian Serbs and their Croatian Serbian and renegade Muslim allies.

The UN World Food Program, based in Rome, said only 5,000 of the 200,000 needy in the enclave received regular meals from public kitchens, and patients in the hospitals got only one meal a day.

In Sarajevo, Nina Winquist, a spokeswoman for the International Committee of the Red Cross, said the blockade of convoys by Croatian Serbs and renegade Muslims, who help Bosnian Serbs in their battle against government troops, was also hampering aid in the area.

President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia, meanwhile, left for Washington for meetings with U.S. and UN leaders on the first anniversary of a U.S.-brokered agreement, setting up a federation of Bosnian Croats and Muslims with close ties to Croatia.

Record Number Of Journalists Killed in 1994

UNITED NATIONS, New York — A record number of reporters worldwide were killed or jailed for their work last year, including 19 killed in Algeria and 74 imprisoned by Turkey, a journalism group says.

The 72 reporters killed included 14 who were killed in war zones in Bosnia, Somalia, Angola, Chechnya and Rwanda, the Committee to Protect Journalists said in a report Wednesday.

Fifteen more reporters were victims of ethnic massacres in Rwanda. In 1993, 64 reporters were killed around the world.

A total of 173 journalists were jailed worldwide last year, the report said.

Israel Holds 2 in Probe of Stolen French Art Works

JERUSALEM — Israeli police are trying to determine whether canvases recovered in Israel are masterpieces by Van Gogh, Picasso and Degas stolen in France last month, a police spokesman said Wednesday.

A 53-year-old tourist from France and a Tel Aviv art dealer were in police custody

in the case, and 14 paintings were recovered, the spokesman said.

Acting on a tip, he said, police officers stopped a car in Jerusalem on Saturday and found six works of art in it.

A house rented by the Frenchman in the car was searched, and eight more canvases were found, including works apparently by Van Gogh, Picasso, and Degas, the spokesman said.

The works, which were Israeli experts were trying to authenticate, appeared to match those stolen in an armed robbery from a Paris art dealer in February, he said.

"When the pictures were found in his flat," the spokesman said, "the tourist said he bought them from a peddler in Paris for several thousand dollars, and brought them to Israel for sale."

EUROPEAN TOPICS

French Slang Likely To Have Last Word

Not so very long ago, French bakers or fish sellers had their own colorful jargon, and the people of Courbevoie, a Paris suburb, had an accent noticeably different from that of neighboring Puteaux.

But today's standardized, homogenized French, its influence spread by the broadcast media, will not have "le dernier mot," insists Jean-Pierre Goudaillet, a Sorbonne linguistics professor.

Staff members at his Center for Argot Research have found, for example, that butchers in Paris's 13th arrondissement still use a type of argot called *louchébem* formed by replacing the first

letter of a word with an "L," moving the first letter to the end and adding a suffix. And Parisian *louchébem* is different from that of Lyon.

Especially vital are the argots of the young and those on society's fringes (the hoodlums of Pigalle had their own argot before World War II), reports the daily *Le Figaro*. Prestigious schools like the Ecole Polytechnique and the Saint-Cyr military academy have their versions, which each new cadet is expected to learn.

The backwards language known as *verlan* (itself a backwards version of *Piemont*, the word for backwards), which originated in underworld circles in the 16th century, has made a big comeback among the young. But now Arabic, African and Gypsy words are "verlanized" as well. Popular rap singers like MC Solaar (whose contribution to the language was recognized by no less than Culture Minister Jacques Toubon, a defender

of French linguistic purity) have played a big role.

Change is so rapid it can be hard to follow. Thus *fic*, slang for "cop," was verlanized to *keuf*, shortened to *keuf* (not to be confused with *meuf*, the word for woman), then reverlanized to *feukeu*. If in doubt, ask a teenager.

Around Europe

Prostitution could be outlawed in Sweden, that pioneer of sexual freedom, if recommendations of a Health Ministry commission are adopted. The panel, citing the danger of AIDS, the links between prostitution and crime, and the potential for the exploitation of foreigners and young people in the sex trade, has called for fines or prison sentences of up to six months for prostitutes and their clients. "There are two trends in Europe," said the commission secretary, Li Orlov-Lempert. "The first says it's a human right to be a prostitute, the second

says it's a human right not to be abused."

The scene inside Kni Kafee, a Copenhagen discotheque, can be disconcerting to the uninitiated. Young people dance or leap about, in unrelated rhythms, to the sound of — silence. No one talks, but everyone seems to be having a great time. Welcome to a new approach to nightclubbing: the Walkman disco.

"Yes, it can be impressive," says the club's manager, Jesper Nymark, "to stand at the bar and watch the people on the dance floor. Some are listening to techno, some to rock, others clearly have a romantic tape in their Walkman."

There are advantages for club owners, of course. No expensive sound system is required. And neighbors are unlikely to complain about the noise.

Brian Knowlton

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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Ideas Follow Trade

In China's up-and-down relations with the United States, the mood and direction currently seem to be up. Toward the end of last year things got very bleak and scratchy with the American refusal to let China set its own terms for joining the new World Trade Organization. Early this year, for a time, they got worse with the quarrel over China's failure to enforce its own laws against copyright piracy. But then the two governments came to an agreement—at least in principle—over the piracy. Now the administration's trade negotiator, Mickey Kantor, has just spent an unexpectedly productive four days in Beijing. Out of these complex and abrasive trade talks, policies are emerging that can serve both countries well.

Chinese attitudes toward the United States are deeply ambivalent. Like many other countries, China wants access to American markets and American technology. Like many others, it resents the constant American nudging on human rights. But in the case of China, the Americans are making an unusually vigorous effort to introduce a truly radical and subversive idea—the rule of law.

Frequently the trouble lies not in the laws but in the widespread flouting of them. Mr. Kantor went to China with a delegation of specialists from the U.S.

Customs Service, the FBI and the Justice and Commerce departments to offer training in the enforcement of intellectual property laws. The big violators tend to be companies with well-greased political connections, but Mr. Kantor ignored that point. He merely told his Chinese listeners repeatedly that they will never have a software industry of their own and a technical strength that it represents if they cannot provide reliable protection to copyright holders, domestic and foreign alike.

The Chinese debate whether respect for law and equal justice would not be a hindrance to them in their phenomenal economic growth. Mr. Kantor warned that, on the contrary, ignoring the law would profoundly threaten their progress.

On this central question, China is likely to keep moving back and forth for many years. But if the idea of orderly law enforcement takes hold in purely commercial areas—such as curbing theft of copyrighted movies, music and computer programs—it may spread. It may begin to affect Chinese attitudes in two other subjects of great importance to the rest of the world, arms control and human rights. The reasons for encouraging trade go well beyond economics. Ideas follow the trade routes.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

If Iran Is Involved, Mind the Business of Big Business

By A. M. Rosenthal

NEW YORK — Oh dear, what to do. How can we get that Conoco company to cancel its billion-dollar deal to develop oil fields for Iran?

For a couple of weeks, Washington fretted with that. Appeal to Conoco patriotism! That was one idea. Tell the Conoco people that the deal worried the president and his secretary of state, because it would blow a huge hole in the containment policy. Both say that containment, mostly of trade and arms, is necessary to keep some rein on Iranian terrorism, militarism and its political and religious warfare against the United States.

But Conoco had heard that stuff and was not deeply moved. It knew that

And so we were left with the predictable, inevitable result of appeasement through trade.

Americans thought U.S. oil trade with Iran had been embargoed for 15 years. But Conoco said look, right here is a provision that foreign subsidiaries of American companies can make all the deals they want. We and our Du Pont owners are doing it through our Dutch subsidiary, all sweetly legal.

Well, how about this: What a lovely

role model you would be, Conoco, if in the name of fighting tyrannies you just waived that privilege of destroying the containment policy.

No, that did not work, either. Everybody knows that role models are for young people, poor people, minority people, to encourage them to work harder and not have so many babies. They are not for big businesses, who have enough trouble keeping shareholders happy without getting involved in any struggle against dictators, for Heaven's sake!

Here's another idea: Get the oil industry together and ask it to persuade Conoco. Trouble is, so many other U.S. oil companies have taken such advantage of the "loophole" that they have become Iran's biggest oil customer. They are not likely to jettison themselves very hard.

The members of the Brenton family on the Du Pont board did listen and prepared to fight the deal. But there was no guarantee that they would win, or that it would not pop up next week in another American company—in fact, there was a likelihood it would.

One thing was left: government action, so painfully long overdue, to plug the Iranian oil loophole. The loophole was left in deliberately for 15 years, to allow U.S. oil to do business with Iran despite

the so-called embargo. It was a scandal, under Bill Clinton as under George Bush.

The American alibi has been that if you don't do business with Iran and other tyrannies, why, your best friends will gobble the trade up—Germany, Japan, France, Britain, all of them.

But the alibi simply encourages allies to gobble faster. If the United States will not put its trade profits where its democracy mouth is, why should they?

We are left with the predictable, inevitable result of appeasement through trade, whether with Nazis, Communists or religious fanatics.

Iran is arming, and subsidizing terrorism; it never stopped either. The U.S. Joint Chiefs are openly worried about Iran's naval and missile expansion in the Gulf, aided by arms sales from Russia and China.

Tank-supported Revolutionary Guards are being reinforced on Gulf islands. That will strengthen Iranian control and blackmail in the commercially and strategically important Strait of Hormuz.

And here comes Russia, selling nuclear plants to Iran; the plutonium by-product could be used for nuclear weapons. But then, if America is good enough to provide Iran with oil dollars to buy nuclear plants, why shouldn't the desperate Russians get those dollars?

President Clinton finally said he would issue an executive order barring U.S. companies from developing oil in Iran.

Good first step, but until we see the fine print we do not know whether it would permit the American oil subsidiaries to keep buying all the Iranian oil they want, as long as it was not landed in America.

And executive orders have a drawback. What the president gives he can cancel. In 1993, Democrats in Congress wanted to present legislation raising tariffs on Communist China unless it eased its massive human rights violations. Mr. Clinton said here, let me do that by executive order. Congress stepped aside. So one day in 1994 Mr. Clinton canceled that order, like a stamp.

Senator Alfonse D'Amato and Representative Peter King, New York Republicans, have introduced legislation for a total U.S. embargo on Iranian trade. Mr. D'Amato, who is showing more foreign policy energy than many senators who built their reputations in that field, holds hearings this week. That may have spurred the president to the executive order.

However the presidential order is written, Congress should give a full embargo the non-cancelable stability of legislation. Congressional action will at last give Washington some ethical pressure against deals with Iran by American allies.

And, maybe most important of all, it may reduce American public cynicism about politics, government and business as role models fit for young or old.

—The New York Times.

How to Help Pakistan

Violence is running out of control in Pakistan's port city of Karachi. More than 1,000 Pakistani lives have been lost in a year of disorder. Last week two American consular employees were killed and a third wounded when their van was ambushed on the city's main thoroughfare. There are domestic causes behind the unrest, like ethnic and religious conflicts, political rivalries and drug-turf battles. But Pakistan's troubled relations with the United States are a factor.

Less than a decade ago, Washington saw Pakistan as a front-line Cold War ally and staging ground for U.S. aid to the anti-Communist Afghan resistance. Since Soviet troops withdrew from Kabul, relations have cooled considerably. Many Pakistanis feel that Washington has left them to cope with toxic consequences of the Afghan war, including a flood of easily obtained assault weapons, increased drug trafficking and battle-hardened cadres of unemployed Islamic warriors.

Early next month Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto will come to Washington in an effort to shore up relations. Both sides have an interest in reducing tensions, but the Clinton administration must not do so at the expense of efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

Miss Bhutto, educated at Radcliffe and Oxford, presents herself as a market-opening reformer and a secular bulwark against Islamic radicalism. But her per-

formance has been more ambiguous. Mindful of political vulnerabilities, she has steered scarce resources toward military procurement and ignored religious intolerance and persecution. She has also done little to curb the corruption in Pakistan's political parties, including her own.

The Clinton administration has recently been advertising its willingness to reconsider the virtual cutoff of American aid imposed in 1990 to punish Pakistan's effort to develop nuclear weapons. Miss Bhutto, under continuous pressure at home from military leaders, would clearly like to take home some concessions on this issue. It is in America's interest to strengthen her civilian, secular government, but she must provide credible curbs on Pakistan's nuclear program in exchange for any relief.

Washington also needs to press for more responsible Pakistani behavior in the dispute with India over Kashmir. India's repressive policies have been disastrous, but Pakistani support for cross-border terrorism has made matters worse and threatens international peace.

Finally, the Clinton administration might remind Miss Bhutto that her government can help reinforce democratic rule by paying more attention to the economic needs, security fears and democratic aspirations of the majority of Pakistanis who have twice elected her to high office.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Hold the Champagne

A U.S. diplomatic initiative has averted a wider war at least for a while in the old Yugoslavia, but hold the champagne. The initiative's success may finally rest on military choices that the United States remains extremely reluctant to confront.

Croatia had threatened to kick out United Nations peacekeepers situated between it and the separatist Croatian Serb enclave of Krajina. Serbia proper might then have come in to rescue its kin. Muslim Bosnia might then have used Serbia's distraction to attack a similarly defiant Bosnian Serb enclave. Compared with the Serbs, Croatia and Bosnia, although hardly innocent, are the lesser troublemakers and the larger victims in the Yugoslav wars. They have a right to fight to reverse their losses, even though others may think that they are misguided in doing so. But if others are to tell them not to resist, then those others must have a better or an alternate idea.

In this instance, an idea comes from American diplomacy. Washington has persuaded Croatia to retain a UN presence, although it is meant to be a different presence, one that does not alienate Croatia from its sovereign territory in Krajina. Aware that it is setting up a new mission (halting Serbian gun-running)

but providing no new military resources to achieve it, the United States now offers Croatia a gesture, not the politically proscribed "troops," but few GIs to act as well, communications technicians.

It will fall to the Western countries which, unlike the United States, already have soldiers on the ground there to decide whether they wish to perform the difficult American-assigned task of guarding Croatia's borders.

Serbs inspired and sustained by Serbia hold 27 percent of Croatia and 70 percent of Bosnia. The United States calls on those Serbs to bargain back some part of their ill-gotten gains but is so far prepared to apply only uncertain economic and political pressures to make it happen. Croatia's and Bosnia's presidents are both in Washington this week, partly to lobby for new American measures of military supply and participation. Against these demands the Clinton administration promotes a line of diplomacy intended to induce Serbia to persuade its client Serbs to abandon their independence bids for compromise autonomy. It is an idea born of desperation, and its failure would shift the condition of American policy from high embarrassment to true crisis.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Other Comment

Another Standard for Taiwan

Days after Secretary of State Warren Christopher confirmed that President Lee Teng-hui [of Taiwan] would not be allowed to attend a reunion at his alma mater, Cornell University, the Clinton administration announced that the leader of the Irish Republican Army's political wing, Gerry Adams, had been invited to the White House. Mr. Adams will be al-

lowed to use his time in America to raise money—money Britain says goes to buy weapons. Mr. Lee is the leader of a vibrant democracy with close U.S. ties. Surely a White House that can find room for an IRA fund-raiser ought to be able to come up with a formula to allow a democratically elected leader to attend a reunion of his American university.

—Far Eastern Economic Review (Hong Kong).

Cold Spell: Ulster and the Balkans Come Between Clinton and Major

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — I bit into a pizza appetizer just as President Bill Clinton turned from conversation with Senator Edward Kennedy about Northern Ireland and asked, "Do you think we're right on this?"

"Mostly right," I responded between bits of oregano and cheese, and more out of instinct than heavy analysis. Now what did I mean by that, I wondered, as the conversation at the week-end cocktail party sensibly turned to the latest mystery novels on the president's reading list.

A day later, John Major helped sort out my instinctively hedged response. Defending his decision to visit Yasser Arafat in Gaza, the British prime minister inadvertently cast a favorable light on Mr. Clinton's efforts to get the Irish Republican Army to agree to an end to Ulster's long civil war.

Back to Messrs. Major and Arafat in a moment. The bigger picture is this: Relations between the American president and the British prime minister are now at their lowest point since Dwight Eisenhower's humiliation of the

British in the 1956 Suez crisis. Mr. Clinton's decision to override Mr. Major's objections and host IRA political leader Gerry Adams at a St. Patrick's Day White House reception has turned a chill between Washington and London into a glacial freeze.

That is where my reservations—my "mostly right"—lie. Mr. Clinton is too important an ally to be given the back of the hand in such an open way. There must have been a way for Mr. Clinton to involve himself in the Irish question more diplomatically, without bruising Mr. Major, I keep thinking.

But this is a political intervention, not a diplomatic one. The State Department's repeated pleas that Mr. Adams not be allowed into the White House (much less into the White House) have been consistently brushed aside by the president's political advisers.

The president is clearly playing to the Irish-American community by progressively lifting restrictions on U.S. official contact with Sinn Féin, the IRA's political

wing. Moreover, credit for helping bring off a peace settlement would provide much needed later for Mr. Clinton with the American electorate at large.

Mr. Major is in an even more precarious position. His Conservatives, deeply divided over Britain's place in the European Union, are behind Tony Blair's Labor Party in public opinion polls. If there is glory to be won from a peace settlement in Ulster, Mr. Major desperately needs it. In some key respects, he must now see Mr. Clinton as a political rival for reflected glory on Ireland.

Enter Mr. Arafat. The British prime minister visited the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization on Tuesday. "Terrorism has now been renounced by Chairman Arafat," Mr. Major said defensively before the visit. "I have not seen it comprehensively denounced by Mr. Adams."

But there is a more striking difference between these two men who aspire to join the long list of ex-terrorists who have become

excellencies. Mr. Adams's previous two visits to the United States were followed by a cease-fire and IRA concessions in the embryonic peace talks. He thus far has been willing and able to deliver on the promises that he makes to the White House.

Mr. Arafat's promises to halt Palestinian violence against Israelis remain unfulfilled. Mr. Clinton's political equivalent of soccer's "own goal" (giving your opponents a point by kicking the ball into your own net) by naming Mr. Arafat over Mr. Adams without the goods.

For Mr. Adams and Mr. Arafat, promises are weapons as much as their bullets were before. It is not necessary, or even wise, to take their declarations at face value. Only results matter.

Mr. Clinton follows a high-risk Irish strategy by paying in advance. He gives Mr. Adams enormous carrots of recognition and waits for the IRA to deliver. So far it has paid off, making the British government look like the hesitant, foot-dragging party. That is not an accurate image, but the adminis-

tration's rough treatment of Mr. Major has helped it take root.

When Douglas Hurd, Mr. Major's able foreign secretary, was in Washington a few weeks ago, he told friends that the "poison" injected in U.S.-European relations by disagreements over Bosnia seemed to have been drained. But that judgment was premature. In recent weeks, as it has disregarded Mr. Major on Ireland, the administration has also moved to make Croatia the centerpiece of its Balkans diplomacy.

The Irish and Croatian initiatives reflect a conscious decision by the White House to downgrade the "special relationship" between Washington and London. The United States seeks to build a new U.S. special partnership with Germany, Croatia's strongest defender in Europe.

Mr. Clinton plays the optimist on Ireland. Mr. Major urges caution and restraint. In the end, "mostly" won't count. The IRA will prove one of them right and one wrong, and help the re-election chances of the former.

—The Washington Post.

Mexico: Feeling Powerless in the First Postmodern Economic Crisis

By Thomas L. Friedman

MEXICO CITY — Ricardo Martinez, a 60-year-old peasant living in a tumbledown shack on the edge of Mexico City, says he has never heard of Wall Street and doesn't know anything about dollar-linked peso bonds, George Soros or Merrill Lynch's emerging markets fund.

Feeling cactus from her garden, she insists that none of those strange-sounding names could possibly explain what she does know, which is that she can't afford to buy meat anymore, and that "Mexico is now different—now we are poor."

Mrs. Martinez is right. Mexico today is different, but it is because Mexico has been hit with a financial neutron bomb, launched by the very forces that Mrs. Martinez has never heard of.

As with any neutron bomb, all the buildings have been left standing but the people have been devastated. Overnight, the Mexican economy has shrunk from a size large to a size small, without ever stopping at medium.

If I were a political scientist, I would be down here now taking notes, because there is something very old about Mexico's crisis, but also something very new.

What is old is the fact that Mexico, like many other countries, got hooked on cash from foreign investors to finance its development, because it had a low savings rate at home. Mexico promised those investors high interest and a fixed-rate peso. But to keep that promise it had to

curb spending at home, and when it couldn't, the peso was devalued without warning.

Three things are new: the massive amount of private foreign cash that Mexico had grown dependent upon, the speed at which global investors could withdraw those funds when they suddenly decided they didn't like Mexican policies, and the interdependence of Mexico and other global economies, which meant that when Mexico's currency crumbled, many global investors bailed out of all emerging markets, dragging down everything from the Thai baht to the Argentine peso.

That is why the Mexican meltdown of 1995 is the first postmodern economic crisis. Ricardo

Martinez meets Merrill Lynch. What interests me most, though, are the political implications of a world in which nations increasingly feel inferior to markets. Mexican officials speak like defeated generals.

"Give us a truce," said Finance Minister Guillermo Ortiz, addressing the global markets. "You have pounded us to death. Stop selling us short."

Asked what it is like to be caught in the maw of the global markets, he gestures to the three computer screens next to his desk that track the peso: "I have days when I feel absolutely powerless. Sometimes I have to go to work in the other room so that I can concentrate away from the screens."

A stunned official of Mexico's central bank asked me about the

global markets: "Why were they so mad? Why the vengeance?" Because, I told him, hell hath no fury like a bond trader with a cell phone who just saw his investment devalued.

Enrique del Val Blanco, an official of Mexico's Human Services Ministry, sounded like a man living through "Invasion of the Body Snatchers."

"Everyone feels their life is determined by someone outside, and everyone wants to know who is this person? Who is this force? We thought that we were on the path to the First World and suddenly something went wrong. One minute the World Bank and IMF were saying Mexico was the best example. Now we are the worst example. What did we do? We are losing control. If we don't find another type of development, we are finished. We surrender."

At the presidential palace, Ernesto Zedillo sits at a table in his office. Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" is playing in the background. I wonder whether the music is meant to fortify him for another duel with the bond market. Unlike Mrs. Martinez, President Zedillo has met Merrill Lynch.

"The speed at which international markets have evolved over the last 25 years has been much faster than the capacity of governments and international organizations to cope," he said.

"The boom was built very quickly, and nobody was looking at it. Certainly we were not. We have to start thinking about a global arrangement that would prevent the sort of things we are now enduring."

—The New York Times.

Broad American Commitment, Narrow Ideology

By William Pfaff

PARIS — The commitment the United States now has made to Mexico bears a distinct resemblance to the commitment it made to Vietnam during the late 1950s and the early 1960s, when the troubles in that country were only beginning.

That was war and this is peace. Nonetheless now, as then, with as little reflection and a simplistic ideology, Washington has taken on responsibility for the fortunes of another nation that it scarcely knows and fails to understand.

In Mexico this American assumption of responsibility is primarily economic, but Mexico's economic plight is inseparable from the political crisis afflicting the seven-decade-long dictatorship in Mexico of the PRI, or Institutional Revolutionary Party, historically the vehicle of Mexican nationalism—and of resistance to American exploitation of Mexican oil resources.

Washington has demanded, and last Friday was given, Mexico's promise of a program of economic austerity with distressing implications for millions of Mexicans, who only weeks ago were being told that their country's membership in NAFTA assured rising prosperity for them and their country. One aspect of the new arrangement is that a major part of Mexico's future oil revenues is pledged against the new American and international loan guarantees.

Even without the debt crisis a national upheaval is under way in Mexico which not even the Mexicans can be sure they can solve. Washington's commitment to a solution is an engagement with the uncontrollable and unforeseeable. The possibilities to which this could lead have yet to be

acknowledged by the administration, although President Bill Clinton has already taken steps to strengthen control of the Mexican border. Mexico's new austerity guarantees to intensify the pressures behind northward migration, illegal when it cannot be legal.

The new president, Ernesto Zedillo, a product of the PRI system, is attempting to reform the party and the way it has perpetuated

Belief in the universal benevolence of free trade is a current inversion of domino theory.

itself in power. For the first time crimes committed within the party leadership are being exposed to public view, investigated and given the promise of prosecution.

These include the murder of the party's secretary-general in September and of the party's presidential candidate last March. The brother of former President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has been arrested for allegedly ordering the former murder, and ex-President Salinas last week was himself "asked" to leave Mexico, taking refuge in the United States.

Mr. Salinas was until a few days ago the United States' nominee to become head of the new World Trade Organization.

There are, in addition, allegations of high-ranking embezzlement by party figures, and of government and party implication in the drug traffic. Most of this was known or assumed while Washington was campaigning to make

Mexico part of NAFTA. There is also, of course, an armed rebellion among impoverished Indians in the state of Chiapas in the south, which enjoys much national sympathy from intellectuals and a part of the church.

The stabilization plan announced by Finance Minister Guillermo Ortiz promises the Mexican people recession, unemployment and personal hardship. The inflation rate is now forecast to rise to 42 percent this year. There will be a one-third loss of buying power, a 50 percent increase in value-added tax, programmed rises in electricity and gasoline prices—and a great many bankruptcies.

This program is the price demanded for the debt guarantees that Washington has arranged, as well as being a consequence of the fecklessness of the Salinas government in refusing to confront the country's currency and deficit problems last year while there was still time to deal with them.

Neither corporate business nor organized labor in Mexico has yet been willing to endorse this plan. Whether it will succeed is open to question. Chaotic financial conditions may return. Alan Greenspan of the Federal Reserve has said to Congress that while he dislikes the "too big to fail" argument in favor of American guarantees to Mexico, this nonetheless has been an international crisis—and of course may become one again.

Washington's ideology in all of this, under both Democrats and Republicans, has been that of the universal benevolence of unrestricted global free trade. This is a contemporary version, or inversion, of domino theory.

Lawrence Summers, undersecretary of the Treasury, says the guarantees to Mexico are an essential part of America's commitment to "a new international era." They are among "the modes and methods of the United States engagement in global transformation," meaning "the liberalization and integration of trade around the world," to which only isolationists and the "nostalgic" could object.

The globalist official rhetoric particularly recalls the 1960s. We now have only to await the light at the end of the tunnel. It will be some time before we see it.

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IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1895: Policy of Politesse

PARIS — The *Figaro* this morning [March 16] publishes an article on the attitude to be observed by France towards foreign countries and especially Germany. Two courses are open to her: either an attitude of aggression or one of observant politeness. It is easy, says the writer, to write inculcatingly of foreign countries, but those who advocate this policy will have to prepare for war. France's policy is a waiting one. With a prolonged peace who knows if a pacific solution of burning questions may not be possible.

1920: Coups in Germany

LONDON — In the House of Commons today [March 15] Mr. Lloyd George read the following telegram from the British Charge d'Affaires in Berlin: "The nationalist movement is spreading. A mil-

itary coup is announced from Munich. Frankfurt is divided into two camps. Fighting is going on in Breslau, Hamburg, Kiel, Leipzig and Chemnitz. The results are as yet uncertain. In about 35 cities military coups are reported. The position of the new government seems to be strengthened."

1945: Yard by Yard

IWO JIMA — Japanese resistance collapsed late yesterday [March 14] on the center and right of their front lines guarding Kitano Point, and in final fighting the 5th Division of Marines gained 200 to 400 yards before darkness. On the extreme right along the rim of a 60-foot cliff, Marines under Colonel Thomas Wornham made the deepest gains, reaching Kitano neck, with only 800 yards more to go. The Marines engaged in the first night attack since the landing here.

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OPINION/LETTERS

Leadership Is Fine but It Comes at a Price

WASHINGTON — The good news is that a solid debate about post-Cold War foreign policy is at last beginning. George Bush's new world order and Bill Clinton's enlargement policy are rapidly fading memories — deservedly so. The not-so-good news is that while the world is utterly transformed, American thinking has hardly budged. Much of it is still firmly rooted in the world of 1970.

William Safire went so far in a column in *The New York Times* (IHT, March 7) as to compliment President Bill Clinton for using the same line in a foreign policy address that Mr. Safire had penned for President Richard Nixon 25 years earlier.

Indeed, with place names appropriately changed, most of the speeches given at a recent gathering of foreign policy bulls at the Nixon Center for Peace and Freedom could have been delivered decades ago.

Rhetorically, nearly all agreed on the undiminished need for U.S. leadership. But the word is used to mask profoundly different views of America's role in the world.

Republicans see a dividing line between unilateralists and multilateralists. The latter, they say, care so much about international institutions and international opinion that they allow themselves to be led by them rather than to lead. Nonsense, say the Clintonites, the choice is false: The United States will lead multilaterally whenever it can and unilaterally when it must.

Unilateralists' world view is unabashedly take it or leave it. This school, as Mr. Safire puts it, says "America should pick its spots and assert its leadership, inspiring and pressuring and expecting allies to follow." Instead of being committed to often tiresome international organizations, ad hoc coalitions can be created when needed.

The administration is closer to reality, but neither side grapples with the crucial

By Jessica Mathews

question of what it takes to exercise leadership of either sort in today's world. Does the United States have the financial means or the will to act alone on all matters of major concern to it? And can it expect allies and others to follow when it calls?

True, the United States is the world's greatest military power. But for countries that do not feel any foreseeable threat or that have no reason to expect American help, that does not mean quite the same thing as it did when U.S. strategic bombers patrolled the skies and any local conflict could become a superpower standoff.

The paradox of America's triumph in the Cold War is that it came at a heavy cost in the power that went with U.S. generalship. Germany, to take one example, would never have defied American opposition to its recognition of Croatia (the act that started the Bosnian tragedy) during the Cold War. Then, American leadership did not need to be asserted or separately earned but merely exercised. To deny the difference from today is to ask for disappointment.

The change on the economic front is just as great. Wardily, to say now that America's goals should reflect its relatively diminished resources and willingness to spend them is to invite being labeled a despised "declinist." And yet, while in 1970 the United States was one-third of the world economy, today it is one-quarter of it. Where it once cast one-quarter of World Bank votes, today it counts for 17 percent. Where the United States was once among the top providers of foreign assistance, today (on a per capita basis) it ranks at the bottom. Where it once could launch almost any international initiative by being willing to pay for it, today it cannot.

No government's sovereignty is what it was in 1970. Trade, foreign investment, capital flows and information flows, all growing much faster than national economies, restrict governments' ability to shape their own economies and bind them in a thickening global web of needs and interests.

For fear of being seen as weak, the Clinton administration will not talk to the public about why exercising leadership is now tougher and thereby begin a badly needed discussion of what American interests and foreign policy goals ought to be.

Republicans see no contradiction between demanding a reduced assessment of America's UN dues to reflect the country's smaller share of the world economy and leaping all over any Democrat who says that the United States is relatively less powerful than before.

We Americans are kidding ourselves. People in other countries do not need to see the once invincible dollar skidding to historic lows to know that there has been a change. They know about U.S. arrears in international institutions. They see U.S. embassies closing and shrinking. In one major Asian capital, the American ambassador has forbidden air conditioning until 11 A.M. to save a few dollars on the electricity bill. It's not the ugly American anymore, it's the sweaty one.

The United States still possesses an unparalleled package of military, economic and political power, but it is dramatically changed from what it once was. It is these differences, not the constants, that need an honest airing. A prolonged debate about unilateralism vs. multilateralism will only lead us down a blind alley.

The writer, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, contributed this comment to *The Washington Post*.



'Front Window' Detective and Unesco Bugbear

By Thomas Fuller

PARIS — One sheet of glass and a few dozen meters are all that separate Bernie Dresner from Unesco headquarters in Paris. And officials at the organization should take note: Bernie is watching.

At 78, Mr. Dresner sits at the large rectangular window of his third floor apartment keeping tabs on the UN's educational,

MEANWHILE

scientific and cultural monolith across the street. He notes when tents go up for VIPs and tracks the limousines and helicopters that shuttle the important visitors in and out.

"They brought in more plants and red carpets," he said when Fidel Castro visited Unesco on Monday. "It's just another blow for the taxpayer."

With high-powered binoculars he spots the sharpshooters who are sometimes stationed on the headquarters' roof and waves to them. They know Ber-

nie by now — he has lived there 23 years — and they wave back. "I'm close enough so that I can see the faces of the people who get out of the cars down there," he says pointing to the street and the rows of tents set up for both Mr. Castro's visit and a March 17 meeting between ministers of the Rio Group and the European Union. "They've got portable heaters back there, blowers; they're installing an entire reception in this tent."

When the elaborate preparations become too much to bear, he fires off a letter to the editor. "It looks like a Barnum & Bailey job," he wrote the IHT. "The entire entrance area is covered with white tenting and wooden flooring — all the way out to the curb. And it isn't done yet; 4 days' construction so far."

Mr. Dresner also phones in updates on construction projects, introducing himself with,

"Hello, this is your favorite spy."

Why this fixation on Unesco? Doesn't Bernie Dresner have anything else to do?

Think of him as a modern-day L. B. Jeffries, the protagonist of the 1954 Hitchcock classic "Rear Window," played by James Stewart. With his leg stuck in a cast, Jeffries, a magazine photographer, sits at his window to fight off the boredom. He watches his neighbors: the woman who dances in her underwear, the man who composes songs on his piano, the newlyweds — when their shades aren't down.

After a few days of this, he realizes that a neighbor woman has been murdered. And he tries to solve the crime.

Like Jeffries, Mr. Dresner has seen a good part of the world through lenses, wide angle and telephoto. A combat photographer in Europe during World War II, he was White House photographer for NBC

during the Truman and Eisenhower administrations, and has spent years looking through glass of one sort or another.

Although Mr. Dresner doesn't look like James Stewart (he is short and wears glasses), he, like Jeffries, believes he should tell others what he sees. And that can be summed up in a word: waste.

"I was at the dedication of the UN in San Francisco in 1945 and again in New York when the United Nations building had just been completed," he said, sitting in a loveseat and keeping an eye on things outside the window. "I just feel that what's happened since then is a big nothing."

Mr. Dresner feels surrounded by waste: the caterers' trucks and their petite fours; the obsessive street cleaners who, the night before an important meeting, scrub away at the pavement below his window, even sometimes in the pouring rain; and the booming loudspeakers set up to call chauffeur-driven cars when dignitaries are ready to leave.

Undoubtedly, part of Mr. Dresner's grudge is personal. His street is blocked and the entrance to his garage shut during major ceremonies. The tents take up half of the sidewalk opposite his apartment. But Mr. Dresner is also preoccupied with the cost of it all.

"How many millions of dollars are being spent — wasted — during this one-day conference of the heads of 120 nations concerning AIDS?" he wrote to the IHT last year. "Would it not be far better for that money to have been devoted to scientific research?"

If he sometimes feels his watchfulness is in vain, Mr. Dresner might find a soulmate in Jeffries, who had a hard time persuading Lisa, his fiancée, played by Grace Kelly, that he had actually witnessed a crime. "Jeff, if you could only see yourself," she says to him in exasperation. "Sitting around looking out of the window to kill time is one thing. But doing it the way you are — with binoculars and wild opinions about everything — is diseased!"

Mr. Dresner's quest might seem quixotic. But he could perhaps take heart from the fact that L. B. Jeffries solves the crime in the end.

International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The East Timor Drama

Regarding "Making a Turky Issue of East Timor" (Opinion, March 6) by Richard Woolcott: Ambassador Woolcott's attempts to excuse the inexcusable with regard to East Timor fail to convince. Since 1975, Indonesia has been in illegal occupation of the former Portuguese colony in defiance of no less than 10 Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. Even Indonesian officials admit that 100,000 to 120,000 inhabitants, a quarter of the pre-1975 population, have perished.

The Australian government, which Mr. Woolcott represented as ambassador in Jakarta at the time of the invasion, has acted despicably toward East Timor. During World War II, some 60,000 Timorese died in a bloody Australian commando operation waged to prevent a Japanese assault on Australia's Northern Territory. Instead of repaying this debt of honor, Canberra has consistently connived with the Indonesian military in recognizing its autonomy, first in recognizing its annexation (Australia is the only Western country to have accorded de jure recognition) and then in dividing up East Timor's sea-bed resources (including oil

fields thought to equal three times Australia's current reserves) with Jakarta.

Receipt of stolen goods is a crime, as International Court of Justice lawyers are well aware. Portugal's case against Australia is thus a strong one.

PETER CAREY,
Oxford, England.

Of Course He Forgives

Regarding "Marble Bust of Agnew in the Capital" (Opinion, March 14) by William Safire:

Many Americans who watched as the Nixon-Agnew team jeered Vietnam War protesters, setting into motion the terrible alienation of America's young, and ultimately making criminals of those unwilling to die in support of a stupid and nefarious military slaughter — all the while being spurred on by the brilliant prose of one William Safire — will surely not be very surprised to read the forgiving words of that same Mr. Safire. That those two American leaders turned out to be small-time crooks was unfortunate, as they were thereby relieved of being held responsible for the finale of that dreadful debacle.

It approaches the slapstick to witness, in 1995, Republican

politicians pointing fingers for nonparticipation or else taking credit for participation in that war, still pretending that there was something honorable or intelligent about it; or a president who was clever enough to avoid the draft back then still not daring to stand up and repeat his own words of protest, pretending that there was something dishonorable in them.

JOE WILLIAMS,
Düsseldorf.

Choosing One's Charity

Regarding "She Had Only the Bench — And One Happy Meal" (Opinion, Feb. 7) by Sarah Baldwin-Benick:

With what credentials does the writer preach to us? How can she assume that those she sees on the Metro do not have other (larger) charities of their own? For many, like me, who spend long days traveling both above and below ground, even parting with one franc per person who asked would mean paying more per hour than we ourselves earn. I, like many others, choose to pool my resources for a more effective cause (such as that of Abbé Pierre). Spare us.

AMIT PIETER,
Paris.

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INTERNATIONAL

In Barring Iran Oil Deal, U.S. Sends Conflicting Signals

By David E. Sanger
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — If American business has received a single clear message from the Clinton administration in the last year, here it is: Join the age of "economic engagement," by helping the United States win over the souls of authoritarian regimes through greater access to American capital and investment.

That has been the logic with China, ever since the administration dramatically reversed gears a year ago and argued that investing in China would change Beijing's attitudes on human rights and the exportation of missiles.

It has been the logic with North Korea, where American business executives are already exploring investment opportunities. And it has applied in Vietnam, where the administration decided to take considerable political heat from veterans groups so that American companies would not miss out on economic openings.

Perhaps then it is understandable how Conoco Inc., the oil company subsidiary of Du Pont Co., missed the signals on Iran, and ended up losing a huge oil exploration deal.

After all, President Clinton appeared to be reversing course again in using an executive order to bar the transaction.

The administration is still struggling to explain how it has become such a vociferous advocate of "economic diplomacy" in dealing with some authoritarian regimes, while preaching the need for economic containment in places like Iran, Iraq and Cuba.

"We draw the line in countries with policies that are beyond the pale," a senior administration official said Tuesday, citing what he said was Iran's sponsorship of terrorism, its violation of human rights and its nuclear ambitions.

But the market reality is this: While turning investment on and off may be the primary weapon Washington has left in its foreign policy

NEWS ANALYSIS

arsenal these days, it is only powerful if the rest of America's allies go along.

In Iran's case, that rarely happens. So the Iranians know that if Conoco is prohibited from spending \$1 billion to develop its offshore oil fields, someone else — in this case the French companies Elf Aquitaine and Total — will be standing in the wings.

Nor has the United States had much success getting others to join its halfhearted ban on Iranian oil exports. For years, Japanese and American diplomats have professed the same goals in their attempts to change the behavior of the Iranian regime. Yet, in 1993 Japan brought in 370,000 barrels a day, making it Iran's biggest export market.

Washington has rarely been in a position to complain publicly about all this, because its sanctions on Iran have never been as tough as its oratory.

The government has always permitted American companies to buy, refine and sell Iranian oil, as long as they do it off American shores and

through subsidiaries. And once refined, it is impossible to tell the source of the oil. At least some of it undoubtedly flows through American gas pumps.

It was through this loophole that Conoco tried to leap. None of the oil in the deal it signed early this month was to be sold directly in the United States. No prohibition existed — until Tuesday — against the financing and service agreement Conoco planned to sign.

The president acted, his spokesman, Michael McCurry, said, because the deal would "represent a substantial new capacity for oil production by Iran."

He continued: "And that is, among other reasons, why the president felt it would be dangerous to add to their economic capacity to do the things that we find objectionable in the world community."

Of course, that is exactly the argument that the administration's critics have used in attacking its policy elsewhere in the world.

Presumably, economic engagement with North Korea, however limited, frees resources for that insular country to develop its arsenal of missiles, one of its biggest exports. Dealings with China inevitably enrich the People's Liberation Army, which holds big stakes in many of the busiest factories. China is periodically accused of shipping its missiles to Iran, another of the Chinese Army's main industries.

So why is what is right in China wrong in Iran? It's not entirely clear.

If Mr. McCurry's comments are taken to their

logical conclusion, allowing American companies to buy upwards of 25 percent of Iran's oil production is contributing to the regime's health and longevity.

Indeed, that is the argument put forth by Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato, Republican of New York and now the chairman of the Senate Banking Committee. He has introduced legislation to prohibit American companies or their foreign subsidiaries from doing business with Iran.

"We are subsidizing Iranian terrorism by purchasing their oil and it has to stop," Senator D'Amato said recently.

Perhaps the real reason that the administration was able to act so strongly Tuesday is simple politics. After all, what Iran lacks in the United States, for understandable reasons, is any constituency in Congress.

The administration was under tremendous pressure from the business community last year to separate human rights from the issue of trade preferences for China.

There is an active Vietnam business lobby, led by companies that realize that the country may be the last source of well-educated, well-disciplined and very inexpensive labor in Southeast Asia. But by and large, American companies are not clamoring for a chance to work in a country that still routinely calls the United States the "great Satan."

The result was that Conoco found itself where no business ever wants to be in Washington: all alone.

PEACE: Christopher Mission Provides Important Psychological Boost

Continued from Page 1

had buried the process." According to officials on both sides, Israeli-Palestinian negotiations center on a phased Israeli pull-back in the West Bank. Palestinian elections would follow an initial Israeli withdrawal from Jenin in the north and possibly Bethlehem further south.

Negotiations with Syria focused tightly on security arrangements after an Israeli withdrawal of undefined extent from the Golan Heights. Israel conveyed an offer through Mr. Christopher, for example, to permit a Syrian early warning post in Israel's northern Galilee region if Syria permits an Israeli station to remain on the Golan's strategic Mount Hermon.

In general, however, Israel rejects strict symmetry in the security arrangements. Israeli negotiators say the topography of the Golan and Syria's much larger active-duty army require a deeper demilitarized zone, for example, on Syria's side than Israel's.

Though Israeli officials do not acknowledge that they are prepared to return the entire Golan, they have often hinted as much. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres repeated this week that "Israel will pay the inevitable price" for peace with Syria.

The real questions are the state of mind of the only two men who can bring the deal to a close. Mr. Assad and Prime Yitzhak Rabin of Israel have wavered on the brink for the past two years, and neither has committed himself yet.

For some months now, the conventional view in Israel has been that Mr. Rabin was too weak domestically to agree to return

the Golan. But some officials said that the continued hemorrhage of support for Mr. Rabin's Labor-led government, most recently because of a campaign-spending scandal, has led him to move again to the view that a dramatic deal with Syria would do him good.

For Mr. Assad, Syria's centrally planned, Soviet-era economy is badly in need of Western aid and investment. A peace treaty would undoubtedly move Syria off the U.S. State Department's list of countries supporting terrorism, which now inhibits Syrian access to high-technology imports.

At the same time, many Syrians have taken note of President Bill Clinton's difficulty in persuading Congress to provide debt relief even to Jordan, a historic ally.

Most American historians would cite

the fact that Japan was rejecting U.S. surrender ultimatums, and that Japanese troops were fighting to the death on island after island in the Pacific, raising the prospect of an apocalyptically bloody battle for the Japanese mainland.

Mr. Motoshima, however, saw other reasons behind America's decision. He said that in the case of the Nagasaki bombing, there were two reasons for the atomic bombings other than the hastening of the war's end cited by the United States.

The first "was to prove the success of the Manhattan Project, which cost the American public \$2 billion," and the second was "to verify the actual explosive effect of the plutonium bomb," because, unlike the uranium bomb, he said, "the plutonium bomb was still unreliable."



LOOKING BACK — A father and daughter commemorating in Budapest the 147th anniversary Wednesday of the 1848 Hungarian revolt against Habsburg rule.

JAPAN: Mayor of Nagasaki Likens Atomic Bombing to the Holocaust

Continued from Page 1

clear weapons and a deep longing for their abolition."

But lately Japanese criticism of Mr. Truman's decision has been growing more pointed, perhaps reflecting the nation's self-confidence as an economic superpower, perhaps reflecting irritation over the postage stamp and Smithsonian controversies.

Whatever the reason, the two mayors, Mr. Motoshima in particular, were remarkably explicit in apportioning blame even as they disclaimed any desire to do so.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman refused to comment on the mayors' statements. Asked whether the Japanese government shared the view that the bombings were morally equivalent to the Holocaust, the spokesman replied:

"There must be various views when it comes to the interpretation of historical events. But as far as the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is concerned, we think it was regrettable because it gave rise to countless casualties, and the Japanese people are convinced that this kind of horror should not be repeated."

In his speech, Mr. Motoshima apologized for Japan's own war misdeeds, declaring: "I reflect gravely on Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. I reflect gravely on its aggression in Asia and the atrocities it committed in Asia and the Pacific."

But he refused to acknowledge any justification for the bomb, which instantly killed more than 70,000 people in his city and 140,000 in Hiroshima, plus thousands more later from radiation sickness.

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CAVE: French Dispute Wall Art

Continued from Page 1

video and made a shorter copy. Then at the press conference, announcing the discovery, it presented an edited version of Mr. Chauvet's video and handed out four of Mr. Clottes' photos. It also made two grave errors: The ministry did not have the written consent of Mr. Chauvet to show the video, nor the permission of the Coulange family for Mr. Clottes to take pictures and distribute them free worldwide.

Mr. Chauvet, Mr. Hillaire and Mr. Brunel-Deschamps hired the Synma photo agency to sell their pictures. Mr. Chauvet claimed that although he works for the government, he discovered the caves while on

vacation, and therefore was entitled to exploit his photos as he wished. Furthermore, he stated that he was not a civil servant but a contractual worker, so the civil servant rules did not apply to him. "But the state maintains that he is a civil servant, even on vacation," said Mr. Chauvet's lawyer, Pierre Pujol.

Simultaneously, the Ministry of Culture began to sell Mr. Clottes' pictures of the paintings through Synma, without permission of the Coulange family. Mr. Notari says proceeds are going to the National Prehistoric Center, a government agency, to finance research. Even so, the family may seek royalties. "The ministry is acting like the king," said Miss de Foresta. "It's not moral."

It appears that its problems with Mr. Chauvet, however, may soon be resolved. Although almost worldwide the caves have been called Chauvet, the French government has resolutely referred to them as the Caves Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, after the nearby village. In exchange for its faux pas, the government has agreed to name the caves after Mr. Chauvet.



Henry G. Cisneros, whose private indiscretions resurfaced to embarrass the Clinton administration.

Clinton Team's Sloppy Record in Vetting Nominees

Missteps and Hubris Have Exasperated All Concerned

By Ann Devroy
and Pierre Thomas
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — As President-elect Bill Clinton prepared to take office, the senior leader of his transition, Warren M. Christopher, announced that what he called the strictest ethics rules ever would apply to the new president's transition team and appointees.

A short time later, the FBI and lawyers for the transition team passed along information to Mr. Christopher and others who were reviewing potential cabinet members that Henry G. Cisneros, who was being considered for housing secretary, had made payments for "anguish" and "emotional distress" to a former mistress. The team turned to a close friend of Mr. Clinton's and an adviser for the transition, Webster L. Hubbell, who concluded that Mr. Cisneros's payments should be no bar to a cabinet position.

Now, two years later, Mr. Cisneros faces an independent counsel inquiry into his honesty, while two other independent counsels continue to investigate ethics questions about former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy and the Whitewater affair. Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown and Transportation Secretary Federico F. Peña also are awaiting word from the Justice Department on whether it will act on requests that their financial dealings be investigated by independent counsels.

In addition, Mr. Hubbell is awaiting sentencing following his guilty plea to

charges he defrauded his law clients of nearly \$400,000.

The tale of Mr. Cisneros — like that of retired General Michael P. C. Carnes, the nominee for CIA director who withdrew last weekend, and of many other appointment missteps — illustrates a

NEWS ANALYSIS

recurring problem for the Clinton administration: Either from political hubris or political need, the White House has repeatedly ignored warnings that emerged in FBI background checks or initial interviews only to face a full-blown embarrassment weeks or months or years later.

In several of the most controversial cases, transition and White House lawyers along with the FBI turned up negative or potentially embarrassing information that Clinton officials weighed and then decided was not important enough to derail the nominee.

"You would have thought that by now it would all be perfected," said Charles O. Jones, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution who is co-writing a book on the Clinton transition. "It just boggles me why people whom you normally think of as politically savvy don't seem to have the foresight to judge what is likely to be an issue."

A Republican whose help was sought by the White House on one recent nominee who ran into trouble said: "Sometimes I think everyone over there is drinking the same Kool-Aid. It's like mass political suicide."

In the last three months, the White

House has had to ease out General Carnes, the CIA nominee, because of violations of immigration and labor regulations involving a Filipino domestic worker, and the nominee for surgeon general, Henry W. Foster Jr., has been under fire because key senators say he and the White House misled them about his performance of abortions.

The miscalculations have given the Republicans the kind of ammunition the Reagan administration gave its political foes with its string of ethics problems.

Now Republicans are doing their own vetting. Senator Latch Faircloth, Republican of North Carolina, said Mr. Clinton had pledged as a candidate that "his administration would be the most ethical of all time."

"However," he added, "in less than two years, we have already had the dark cloud of unethical behavior fall over the Clinton presidency and force resignations."

In Dr. Foster's case, congressional Democrats were appalled that the White House walked unprepared into an intensely partisan fight over his acknowledgment that he performed abortions in the course of his practice. The White House not only misread the political implications of nominating a surgeon general who had performed abortions, but also failed to make sure legislators received accurate information about Dr. Foster's record.

Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum, Republican of Kansas, said she was told by administration officials that Dr. Foster had performed one abortion. But some at the White House, including the

president, knew Dr. Foster had performed more.

To the administration's chagrin, some of the officials charged with conducting background checks of others — like Mr. Hubbell — have been found to have troubled backgrounds. White House officials removed ethics matters from the responsibility of William Kennedy 3d, an associate White House counsel, after it was disclosed that he had failed to pay Social Security taxes for his nanny. Mr. Kennedy resigned in November.

IRAN: A Small German Airstrip

Continued from Page 1

for light single and twin-engine aircraft that cannot fly directly to Iran.

But liberal European Union aviation guidelines permit civilian airports to operate free from scrutiny by customs authorities. And planes under 7.5 tons are not required to report flight destinations. These two factors drew the Iranians to the airport almost a decade ago, although the Iranians did not purchase the airport until 1993.

Last August, after two Iranians with close ties to the airport were arrested trying to smuggle heroin and opium into Germany, the government forbade the planes from leaving the country. But German officials say it has proved almost impossible to enforce the ban.

German companies have bought weapons material and technology for the Iranian government by falsifying end-user documents for nearly a decade, according to internal company documents. These small European companies, many of which are owned by Iranians, ship material in long, circuitous routes to Iran.

In 1993, with the airport in disrepair and losing money under German management, it was bought by Mehdi Kashani, an Iranian arms dealer, along with Musa Khayer Habbolahi, a former deputy oil minister of Iran. Mr. Habbolahi, who operated out of London until he disappeared from view a few weeks ago, offered the former owners \$8 million for the airport.

The price was twice what the German owners, Heinz-Erich Schreitmüller and Dr. Reinhard Uhlig, a Hamburg dentist, had paid for it four years before.

The two men agreed to stay on and work for the new management, company records show.

The management of the airport was turned over to an Iranian, Nick Ahmed Semmar. All of the Iranians, wanted for questioning by the German authorities in connection with the airport's operations, are no longer in Germany. Mr. Schreitmüller and Mr. Uhlig are also being investigated by the German authorities for arms trafficking to Iran.

The deal included buying up all the related companies at the airport, including Paratec and Nordring, which holds the license for the airfield, and Nordair, which holds a license from the German civil aviation authority that allows the Iranians to buy aviation technology from German manufacturers without disclosing the final destination.

Mr. Kashani, 52, trained as a cleric in Iran, lives in Madrid and was first linked to arms smuggling to Iran in 1983, when a shipment of weapons parts was uncovered leaving Portugal for Iran. Mr. Kashani was involved in the Reagan administration's efforts to send arms to Iran in return for the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon.

In 1992, he was arrested by the Spanish police for trying to ship 200 Klystron amplifiers, used to help guide missiles, to the Iranian Air Force. Intelligence officials say they believe that he works for Mr. Habbolahi, who is believed to oversee the Iranian government's clandestine arms acquisitions in Europe.

But despite his record, Mr. Kashani continued to operate in Germany until last year. On Aug. 12, two associates, Parvis Sigurdson, 56, and a man identified in court documents only as Mohammed Ali L., 54, were arrested in the parking lot of the Elysee-Hotel in Hamburg trying to sell about 45 kilograms (100 pounds) of opium to undercover agents.

The narcotics, the Iranians told the agents, would be delivered through the Hartenholm airport. The Iranians, who were arraigned in a Hamburg court in February, were also trying to buy radar components for American-made F-4 aircraft for the Iranian Air Force, the authorities said.

Mr. Sigurdson, who worked for Mr. Kashani and who carries a Danish passport, was expelled by the Spanish authorities to Denmark last May, on suspicion of smuggling weapons to Bosnia and Croatia.

The ties between arms smuggling and narcotics trafficking are close.

Money from drug sales is often poured back into illegal arms and technology purchases, intelligence officials say.

Mr. Schreitmüller, in a confidential letter dated Oct. 21, 1993, to his bank, said he had been asked to launder about \$72 million of drug money for the Iranian owners of the airport. A German arms dealer, Peter Fisher, wanted for questioning because of what the authorities suspected was an attempt to smuggle radioactive material through Hartenholm to Iran, along with the airport manager, Mr. Semmar, met with Mr. Schreitmüller on Sept. 2, 1993, in a restaurant in Cologne. The letter, dated in 1993 for purchase, said the name of the restaurant was crossed out.

"In the past, Mr. Semmar was involved in the transportation of sensitive deliveries to Iran," Mr. Schreitmüller wrote. "He also seems to be involved in international drug trafficking and tried to involve Nordair in Schleswig-Holstein. I rejected these intentions."

Hamburg, a port city of 1.6 million residents, including 30,000 Iranians, has long been one of the central smuggling points in Europe. Intelligence officials say they believe that the Iranian Embassy in Bonn is the center for Tehran's intelligence operations in Europe.

It is from the embassy, they say, that Iranian agents coordinate plans to acquire illegal weapons and technology, as well as plan the killing of Iranian dissidents. About 60 Iranian dissidents have been killed in Europe and elsewhere since the Islamic government took power in 1979.

There are many Iranian institutions in Hamburg, including a large Islamic center. The center provides the Iranians, as well as Muslim militants from other countries, with a place to meet and arrange contacts. Intelligence officials said. It is also a cover for Iranian agents infiltrated into Europe, they said.

But there are other activities that give the Iranians the cover they need to operate. Iranian ships dock frequently at the port to unload and take on cargo. Iranian trucks make the long drive to Hamburg to bring carpets and pistachios and return with European goods.

There have been at least two unexplained deaths connected to the airport here.

A few years ago, Mr. Kashani's wife, Lella Kashani, fell or was pushed to her death from a hotel room in Madrid.

She was frequently listed as a partner in the companies that shipped weapons technology to Iran. In 1984, she and her husband were arrested in Los Angeles for stealing \$3 million belonging to a partner in a Swiss engineering company called Tex Consulting and Engineering Inc. The partner was Mr. Habbolahi.

The death of Mr. Barschel, the former premier of Schleswig-Holstein, on Oct. 11, 1987, shook Germany. Mr. Barschel was found drugged and drowned in a bathtub in the exclusive Beau Rivage Hotel in Geneva. The police have not ruled out suicide, but the case is still under investigation in Switzerland and Germany. Mr. Barschel's widow and brother insist that he was assassinated.

Investigators say there was apparently a meeting in Geneva of Iranian arms dealers and senior Iranian officials that may have included Ahmed Khomeini, the son of Iran's late spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, and Mehdi Karubi, the speaker of the Iranian Parliament, and Rafiq Dost, an arms dealer, hours before Mr. Barschel's body was found.

Investigators say that Mr. Barschel may have taken part in the meeting. They also say that the former premier may have been involved in the arms deals with Iran and may have run afoul of the Iranians.

Intelligence officials say the Iranians have inherited many of the old contacts and smuggling routes used in the past by the Pakistanis and the Iraqis to acquire nuclear weapons technology.

Former airport workers say that planes are often hastily loaded or unloaded late at night in Hartenholm. The airport, in an arrangement unusual for small civilian airports, has 24-hour-a-day flight clearance.

Reached by telephone, Mr. Uhlig, one of the former owners, denied all involvement in the airport and refused to give an interview.

His former partner, Mr. Schreitmüller, who says Mr. Uhlig and the Iranians cheated him out of his share of the purchase price, has moved and changed his phone numbers. He said he had received several death threats.

Material is often flown by light aircraft to airstrips in Poland and possibly other East European countries, often by way of Brussels or Vienna, and loaded onto cargo planes bound for Iran, intelligence officials said. On other occasions, the officials said, it has been flown to Eastern Europe and carried by truck to cargo ships.

Intelligence officials said that the Iranians rarely take possession of weapons-related material in Europe or Russia, having it delivered, instead, to a transit point they believe will be beyond the scrutiny of Western intelligence services.

Oslo to Resume Seal Hunt

Reuters

OSLO — Norway said Wednesday that it would resume the hunting of baby seals, stopped in 1989 after world-wide condemnation. It said it would continue its ban on commercial hunting of seal pups. The ban was lifted in 1993 for purchase of seal pup research, the Ministry of Fisheries said.

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HEALTH / SCIENCE

Is This It? Human Evolution May Be Over

By William K. Stevens
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Natural evolutionary forces are losing much of their power to shape the human species, scientists say, and the realization is raising tantalizing questions about where humanity will go from here.

Is human evolution ending, ushering in a long maturity in which Homo sapiens persists pretty much unchanged? Or will humankind, armed with the tools of molecular biology, seize control of its own evolution?

Recent work by evolutionary biologists and others is bringing into focus some of the factors likely to influence humanity's fate.

A number of experts say that Homo sapiens is becoming increasingly disengaged from the forces of natural selection and speciation, the key processes that brought humankind into existence. Until quite recently on the evolutionary time scale, those processes bound humans to the confined and perilous existence of hunter-gatherers. But the explosion of human culture, already in full flower in the cave art of Europe 35,000

years ago, has enabled the human species to liberate itself gradually from the harsh forces of natural selection.

Natural selection has to some extent been repealed in the case of humans, says Dr. Steve Jones, a geneticist at University College London. Most social changes "seem to be conspiring to slow down human evolution," he argues in a recent book, "The Language of Genes: Solving the Mysteries of Our Genetic Past, Present and Future" (Anchor Books, 1994).

Natural selection shapes species by choosing the fit over the unfit generation after generation. Individuals born with advantageous genetic changes survive and have more progeny, while those who lose out in the genetic lottery may perish before breeding age.

The human line, until the relatively recent weakening of evolutionary pressures, evolved to exploit a life as hunters and gatherers. One major selective force was climatic change. It was a global cooling around five million years ago, many paleontologists believe, that shrank the forests of Africa and induced the forebears of the human line — those genetically predisposed to do so — to walk upright and forage across the savanna.

Other environmental disruptions forced further adaptation, leading eventually to hunting, tool-making and language. Along the way, scientists believe, some populations became isolated from each other by barriers of geography or habitat, and they evolved differently enough to split into new species. Many species probably arose as the human line evolved, but only one now remains.

HOMO SAPIENS, the survivor, is departing from the script of natural selection in a number of ways, experts say, and evolutionary forces on humans consequently have weakened.

For instance, lions and leopards and saber-toothed cats do not carry off the weak and unfit as they once did. "That's no longer there," notes Dr. Elisabeth S. Vrba, an evolutionist at Yale University.

Since most people now survive to reproductive age, according to one view, natural selection is being robbed of its most important raw material. If everyone survives and reproduces, no selection of the fittest can take place; everyone is fit.

Humans, some evolutionists say, have wrapped themselves in such a snug, protective cocoon, from clothing to central

heating to hurricane warning systems, that populations are largely insulated from the environmental stresses that drive evolution. Technology and medicine also tend to cancel out inherited genetic defects.

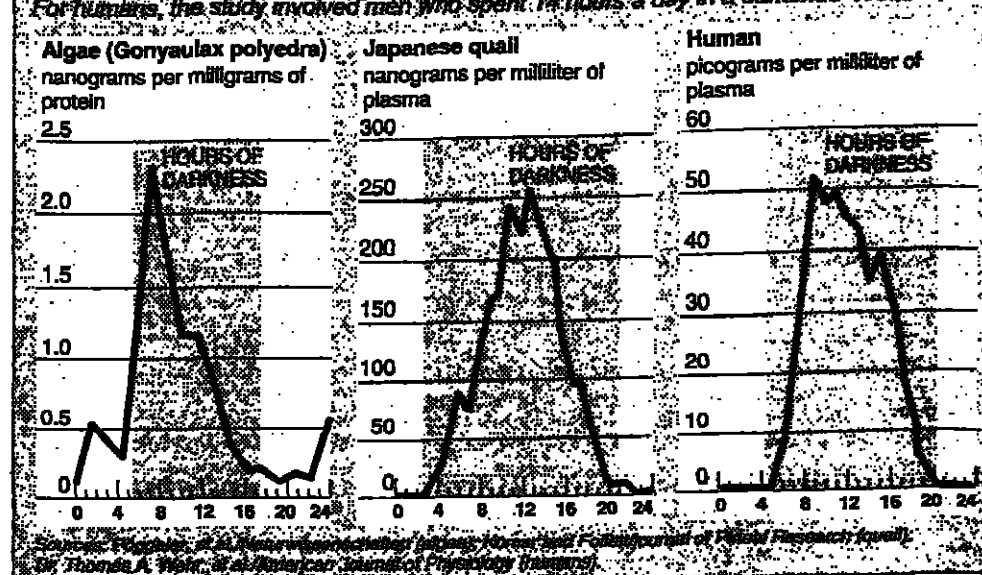
Colonies, emigration and travel have also blunted the shaping forces of evolution. When a population becomes isolated from the rest of its species, by a river or mountain, it is most likely to evolve in independent ways and eventually become a separate species.

"Homo sapiens today is in a mode of intermingling rather than of differentiation, and the conditions for significant evolutionary change simply don't exist — and won't, short of some all-too-imaginable calamity," Dr. Ian Tattersall, a paleoanthropologist at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, writes in "The Fossil Trail" (Oxford University Press, 1995).

For Dr. Tattersall, the most striking factor in the relaxation of evolutionary pressures is the unprecedented mobility of humans in the modern world. "What you have is a species that is spread over a huge variety of environments. There is no barrier that humans cannot cross now."

Natural Clocks: Similar Daily Cycles for 3 Organisms

Levels of melatonin, a chemical that regulates the daily biological clock, in three studies. For humans, the study involved men who spent 14 hours a day in a darkness room.



Rhythm of the Seasons

By Natalie Angier
New York Times Service

BETHESDA, Maryland — As the vernal equinox advances, and the sun lingers in the sky a bit longer each day, and the buds poke forth like babies' fists from every barren twig, even urbanites may feel the pagan craving to revel in seasonal rhythms.

After all, the lengthening of the day and the warming of the air exert a tremendous influence on virtually every other life form, inspiring migrations, ending hibernations, inciting growth and exciting lust. Surely people's innate circadian clocks must react to the return of spring, resetting themselves to keep pace with the extra daytime hours.

As it turns out, human biological clocks do change but only in about half of all people — the half who are women. In men, however, the songs of the seasons apparently hit a deaf ear. The contemporary industrialized world, which blazes with artificial illumination, has suppressed men's ability to react to changes in day length.

Women and men may sleep the same number of hours each night, they may spend the same amount of time bathed in a corporate fluorescent glow each day, but in women, at least one essential keeper of internal circadian rhythms heeds only the sun. When the sun rises late and sets with sorry haste, the amount of a key circadian hormone, melatonin, that is secreted in the female brain at night increases. Come summer, nocturnal melatonin release falls off.

The consequences of that seasonal hormonal shift remain unknown for humans, but in other species, annual changes in melatonin secretion serve as the principal signal orchestrating many of the behaviors that count, including a willingness to fly thousands of miles to one's summering grounds and the desire to breed.

Among modern men, by contrast, though they retain all the machinery to react to seasonal change, the release of melatonin at the winter solstice is identical to that secreted during a midsummer night's dream.

"Men seem to be more sensitive to artificial lights than women are," said Dr. Thomas A. Wehr of the clinical psychobiology branch of the National Institutes of Mental Health here, who made the discovery of the differences in circadian rhythms.

The surprising new finding is part of a larger study that Dr. Wehr and his colleagues are carry-

ing out in the relatively unmined field of photoperiodicity in humans — the impact of day length on hormonal fluxes, sleep patterns and behavior. They are seeking to measure key indices of seasonal rhythms in humans and to see when, why and how those measures might change over the course of the year. Their work could explain why women suffer disproportionately from seasonal affective disorder, or SAD, a type of depression that strikes most often in winter.

In addition to the study of seasonal shifts, the researchers are attempting to tease apart the details of the body's circadian clock, which operates on a 24-hour schedule and tells a person when to sleep, eat and be out and about. Through elaborate and demanding studies that require volunteers to be hooked up, prodded, bled and sampled like astronauts for weeks at a time, the scientists are attempting to determine what the human circadian clock may have behaved like in prehistoric times, before the advent of bright lights, big cities and all-night cybersex.

Some of the scientists' results are preliminary, and those describing sex differences in seasonal release of melatonin have yet to be published. Nevertheless, the work suggests that women and men live in slightly different nightly realms, and that women can cycle to the lunar timetable on which menstrual cycling is roughly based a gentle adherence as well to the calendar of the sun.

However, Dr. Wehr points out that there may be male cadences as well, perhaps ones operating on a shorter timetable.

The new studies are part of a larger explosion of interest in biological clocks. Several weeks ago, scientists announced the discovery of a gene in plants that controls such circadian-based rhythms as the morning unfurling of leaves and the timing of photosynthesis. Writing in American Scientist, Dr. Joseph S. Takahashi, a professor of neurobiology and physiology at Northwestern University, describes efforts to fish out the genes responsible for timekeeping in animals.

One has been found in fruit flies, called the period gene, which assures that newly mature flies will emerge from their pupal cases in the morning, when the sun can quickly dry their wings. Another gene identified in the fungus Neurospora controls growth spurts.

Dr. Takahashi and his co-workers are closing in on a gene called clock, found on both mouse and human chromosomes, that, when mutated, causes the body's clock to think the world works on a 25-hour day.

Crib Death: The Case for Sleeping Position

By Jane E. Brody
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In a letter published recently in The New York Times, a distressed grandmother complained that she had been banished from baby-sitting for her 6-week-old grandson after the parents caught her putting the baby to sleep on his stomach.

"Don't you know about SIDS?" the equally distressed father hissed, referring to the growing evidence that babies who sleep face down are at in-

creased risk of sudden infant death syndrome.

She had, and she knew of the current advice to avoid the prone position for all but a relative handful of babies. But she replied that she could not get the baby to settle down on his back and surely both baby and baby sitter needed some rest.

She is not alone. Despite strong warnings, millions of American infants are being put to sleep in positions or on soft bedding now considered potentially hazardous. As of last June, 45 percent of babies in the United States were still sleeping on their bellies.

Many parents and care givers

have not heard the advice, others choose for various reasons to ignore it and still others are too poor to replace equipment now considered unsafe for their infants.

Meanwhile, in several countries where the vast majority of babies are now put to sleep on their backs or sides instead of their bellies, the rate of SIDS, or crib death as it was long called, has dropped by 50 percent or more.

The SIDS rate in the United States, about one in 800 live births, is much lower than in these countries, and experts here do not expect as large a drop in unexplained infant

deaths if most American babies are switched from the prone position. But they insist that this is one of the simplest measures families and care givers can adopt to reduce crib deaths, which each year claim the lives of about 6,000 infants in the United States.

CONCERN about sleeping position, followed by concern about the surfaces babies sleep on, has been growing over the last two decades, but not until 1992 did the American Academy of Pediatrics advise parents to avoid putting babies to sleep on their stomachs.

At the time, 75 percent of newborns were sleeping face down. Last June, with evidence mounting that prone sleeping was risky, a coalition of federal and private child health organizations began a national education campaign, "Back to Sleep," to persuade parents to put healthy babies to sleep on their backs or sides.

Dr. Bradley T. Thach, neonatologist at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, said, "Throughout history, most babies throughout the world have been placed on their backs, as was the case in the United States up until the 1930s."

Then, he said, American experts, including Dr. Benjamin Spock, promoted prone sleeping, believing it would reduce the risk of babies' choking to death or developing aspiration pneumonia if they vomited while asleep.

But there is no evidence for this, Dr. Thach said, and in Australia and England, where babies have now been switched to sleeping on their backs, there has been no increase in any cause of infant death, only a sharp decrease in crib death.

There is even a suggestion that babies who sleep on their backs are healthier than belly sleepers. Dr. Marian Willinger, a leading researcher in the field at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, Maryland, noted that in the Australian state of Tasmania, where sleep position has been intensely studied since 1988, the switch away from belly sleeping has been associated with a decline in visits to child health clinics, colds and vomiting after feeding.

IN BRIEF

Ozone Slows Tree Growth

LONDON (Reuters) — Ozone pollution slows tree growth and even small amounts in the air are enough to have an effect, U.S. ecologists reported Thursday.

Sandy McLaughlin and colleagues at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee measured ozone levels against tree growth over a period of five years. They found even slightly elevated levels of ozone slowed tree growth.

"We can say it has contributed to a 50 percent reduction in growth if we compare the cleanest year to the dirtiest year," said Dr. McLaughlin, who published the findings in the journal Nature. Ozone levels rose in hotter, drier years and fell in wet years.

How Sugar Affects Children

NEW YORK (NYT) — Although parents commonly complain that their children become wild and inattentive after

eating a lot of sweets, most researchers have steadfastly insisted that the effects of sugar on children are negligible.

But a new study by pediatric researchers at Yale University School of Medicine suggests that parents' observations may be correct. The study showed that within hours after normal, healthy children eat a lot of sugar on an empty stomach, their bodies release large amounts of adrenaline, which causes symptoms like shakiness, anxiety, excitement and concentration problems.

Breakthrough in Agriculture

LONDON (Reuters) — Israeli scientists reported Thursday that they had found that genetically modified crops could resist a weed killer aimed at deadly parasites.

In a letter to the journal Nature, they said three different genetic modifications worked well to protect tobacco and rape (canola) plants from herbicides. Broomrapes and witchweeds attack the roots of a

plant, flowering only after the damage is done. Thus, weed killers sprayed on the parasite once it appears do little good.

Rethinking Magnetic Fields

WASHINGTON (WP) — A team of scientists is suggesting that every laboratory study of the effects of electromagnetic fields from overhead power lines and electrical appliances on cells may have to be redone.

The scientists, at Oregon State University and the California Institute of Technology, have found that laboratory-grown cells are often contaminated with magnetite, a common magnetic mineral that can exist as a microscopic dust in air and water. These particles may cause cells to go haywire when they are exposed to magnetic fields in experiments. Thus any cellular changes, such as cancerous growth, noted in experiments may be the result of magnetite contamination, the scientists say.

Designers Surf Into Cyberspace

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — They are the cyberspace generation — the designers from around the world who opened the fall-winter ready-to-wear season. Techno software is the message on young fashion's internet: synthetic fabrics, cold, hard computer-screen colors, but for fluid dresses and tactile knits.

The computer age has other aspects: the ability to access and update past images.

PARIS FASHION

And the chance to go channel surfing. Dries Van Noten was a zapping victim. The show he sent out Wednesday was visual chaos as elongated black coats over long skinny skirts switched to big and baggy pantsuits. Here a shiny satin dress, then a flash of orange, then a fluffy all-enveloping sweater or a lacy shift-dress.

The overall aim seemed to be feminized menswear, using mannish fabrics and shapes. But Van Noten threw his tailoring a giant lapel flower, rather than a curve. The result — and this in a season of shapely clothes — was a square jacket swimming over a straight houndstooth-check dress, or the body drowning in shapely pants.

Forget fashion, here's a bunch of clothes seemed to be Van Noten's message. Some of them were pretty nice, with big flowers printed on satin and subtle mixtures of textures. But the Belgian designer no longer seems to be moving fashion's fast forward.

Junya Watanabe's vision was sharp, modern, futuristic.

Against the glass and steel-girder modernism of the American Center, Watanabe sent out tunics and pants in silvery space-age fabrics, pieced together so that the seams were pleats opening at the joints.

Think Leonardo da Vinci's anatomical drawings projected to the space odyssey "2001" and you have some notion of the way the outfits outlined the moving parts of the body.

The intricately cut tailoring in stiff, shiny



Flower-patterned, high-shine dress by Dries Van Noten.

fabrics or slender dresses in soft wool were simple modern clothes rather than Star Trek costumes — a step forward for the ex-assistant at Comme des Garçons.

Plastic and nylon are the fetish fabrics of the 1990s. Dirk Bikkembergs' fine knits — fluffy and cropped short — were shown with shiny, synthetic hipster pants. Plastic was mixed with leather and even airy organza for long coats that swept the ankles over taut, body-conscious stretch outfits.

This show had the forward thrust of modernity that is welcome after so much retro fashion. Black nylon coats (which everyone is showing) and a computer-flower print were mixed well with more classic pepper-and-salt tweed.

For Norwegian designer Pia Myrvold, the show location was just a hole in the ground — a construction site where models walked a wooden plank wearing imaginative knits, some bib-shaped, midriff-cropped or even tufted in plastic, with nylon and clear plastic coats the alternative story.

Andrew Gn in his debut collection accessed images of Yves Saint Laurent's classic safari jackets and slim skirts — and updated them as clean-as-a-whistle tailoring in flexible jersey. His polished, grown-up look with elegant hair and makeup showed how fast the new generation is moving away from dressing down.

Manuel Marongiu must have been glued to the small screen watching western movies. From the long skinny jackets to the cowboy hat the designer wore to take his bow, his was a show with a theme, rather than a message. But the lean and mean pantsuits looked well in bruised plum and eggplant colors or in shiny synthetic fabrics.

Inès de la Fressange called it "zapping through childhood" — her cute show of Mary Poppins tweeds in candy colors and velvet collared, nanny-knows-best coats — not least on a mini-model who stole the show dressed as Snow White.

Posh and proper England has already proved a mine of creativity for Vivienne Westwood, but de la Fressange's take was spirited and ironic — as were colorful evening clothes, with turbans and dangling beads, in homage to Edith Sitwell, a favorite muse this season.

The crowded official calendar of 43 shows at the purpose-built Carroussel du Louvre is crumbling into chaos — despite an initiative by French journalists to get shows to start on time (read no more than 30 minutes late).

With hip designers picking their own time and location — Van Noten in the Botanical Gardens and Martin Margiela in the Bois de Boulogne — fashion followers are hoping that the overloaded system will not crash before the season closes on March 22.

BOOKS

GARBO: A Biography

By Barry Paris. 650 pages. \$35. Knopf.

Reviewed by Nicole Arthur

IT is altogether fitting that author Barry Paris opens "Garbo: A Biography" with a hand-wringing preface questioning the legitimacy of producing yet another tome about the actress. Few figures in this century have been subject to

Garbo-scale scrutiny, and Paris himself cites some two dozen existing biographies.

What he has that previous biographers didn't is Garbo's 50-year correspondence with longtime friend Salka Viertel and 100 hours of taped telephone conversations that the actress had with the art dealer Sam Green late in her life. Yet despite these previously unavailable sources, Paris is sufficiently perceptive to quote Roland Barthes's observation that a biography is no more than "a

novel that dare not speak its name."

The actress that Paris rather hyperbolically calls "the greatest phenomenon in film — if not all twentieth-century art" was born in 1905 Stockholm to poor parents. The Gustafson family's situation was worsened by father Karl's poor health and eventual invalidism. Greta, youngest of the three Gustafson children, was reportedly her father's favorite. He died when she was 14; it was a devastating blow, not least because it meant that Greta had to leave school and find work. This she did, first as a barbershop "lather girl" and later selling hats at a department store.

It is often the business of biographies to impose portentiousness upon ordinary childhoods, but it seems clear that early on Greta evinced many of the traits for which she later became notorious. Friends recall that she was alternately timid and imperious. The scant information available about her early life makes a convincing pop-psych case for the fact that

Greta's family background determined lifelong behavior patterns. As the spoiled baby of the family, she had an almost egomaniacal sense of entitlement; as a teenager who lost a doting father, she craved the assurance of a male authority figure.

One such figure was Erik Petschler, "the Mack Sennett of Sweden," who encouraged her to apply for a scholarship at the Royal Dramatic Theater Academy after she appeared in one of his films. But it was Mauritz Stiller who was to be her mentor. In 1923 the academy's director sent Greta to audition for Stiller's "The Saga of Gosta Berling." Stiller adopted her as his protégée, and she soon gave him charge of her career — and her life. He chose her new last name and advised her on deportment (urging her to put her feet up, he told her: "A film star is always tired. It impresses people"). By the following year, she had completed two films (one for Stiller, the other for G. W. Pabst) and been in attendance at the now-mythic Berlin meeting with Louis B. Mayer. The rest, as they say, is history.

It is a measure of Garbo's status as icon that even the minutiae of her life are hotly contested. Uncertainty quickly becomes a sometimes comical, sometimes frustrating recurrence in Paris's book. Opinions abound on such momentous subjects as how the star's pseudonym was selected, but the book also includes a fierce ongoing debate about her shoe size. Garbo, truly a biographer's nightmare, generated far more than her share of apocryphal tales. More often than not, Paris is forced to present two (and sometimes three or four) versions of the same event. Among the book's countless interviews, virtually every assertion made about Garbo is countered by an assertion of the opposite from someone else. She is as enigmatic on the page as she was on the screen.

It is telling that, even in her autobiography, Garbo does not emerge as a strong personality. Yet it is hardly surprising. As a fierce guardian of her privacy, furthermore, there is no reason to believe that she

was a particularly self-aware or reflective person. As if to compensate for this singular lack of input from her subject, Paris lets others do the talking. And it's his good fortune that everyone from Tennessee Williams to Ingmar Bergman to Dorothy Parker had something to say about Garbo. The outspoken silent film star Louise Brooks, the subject of Paris's previous biography, provides many of the book's more perspicacious observations.

For the most part, the book's narrative is evocative, engaging and rich in anecdote. Ultimately, though, "Garbo" gently proposes that the ongoing search for the actress's "mystery" is a wild goose chase.

With that in mind, the most accurate commentary on her career may be one supplied by director Hal Roach: "She was a very quiet girl who happened to photograph terrifically."

Nicole Arthur, arts editor of the Washington City Paper, wrote this for The Washington Post.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

A direct raise to the six level is rare when an opening bid is doubled, but was entirely reasonable for North in the diagrammed deal. He knew that his partnership had at least 12 hearts, and that one or both opponents was void. That it made it very likely that East-West could make a contract or had a cheap save available.

East naturally tried six spades over six hearts, and South persevered to seven hearts. This was right in practice, although wrong on a double-dummy basis. Six spades would have been beaten if South had been inspired to lead a club, or the diamond king followed by a club shift. Double-dummy, North can score two club ruffs for down two.

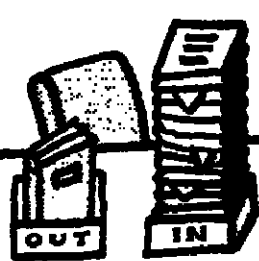
In team play or a social game, West would probably have taken out insurance by bidding seven spades, willing to pay a small penalty to avoid a disaster. But this was match points, and he doubled. Now everything hinged on the opening lead, and it seemed highly prob-

able that the spade ace would be ruffed.

Even if West had been permitted to peek into his partner's hand he would have not known what to do. As it was, he was confident that the club ace would cash. But that card was disastrous, for South was able to ruff in dummy, draw the missing trump, and maneuver to discard dummy's spades. One went on the club king and the other on the fifth diamond.

NORTH			
♠ 73			
♥ 1087643			
♦ A Q J 4			
♣ —			
EAST			
♠ K J 8 8 4 2			
♥ 5 2			
♦ 10 8 3			
♣ A Q J 8 8 4			
SOUTH (D)			
♠ 5			
♥ A K Q 10 5			
♦ K 9 6 5 2			
♣ K 3			

Both sides were vulnerable. The bidding:
South: 1♣, 2♥, 3♥, 4♥, 5♥, 6♥, 7♥.
West: 1♣, 2♥, 3♥, 4♥, 5♥, 6♥, 7♥.
North: 1♣, 2♥, 3♥, 4♥, 5♥, 6♥, 7♥.
East: 1♣, 2♥, 3♥, 4♥, 5♥, 6♥, 7♥.
West led the club ace.



Yoshihiro Wada, president of Mazda Motor Corp., says he is so busy trying to make the automaker profitable that he has had no time to read for pleasure.

"Only read material that pertains to the management of Mazda, such as reports. When we're back in the black, then maybe I'll have some time to read something else."

(Steven Brill, IHT)

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Cycles for 3 Organi

Seasons



PHOTO PATRICK DEMARCHELIER

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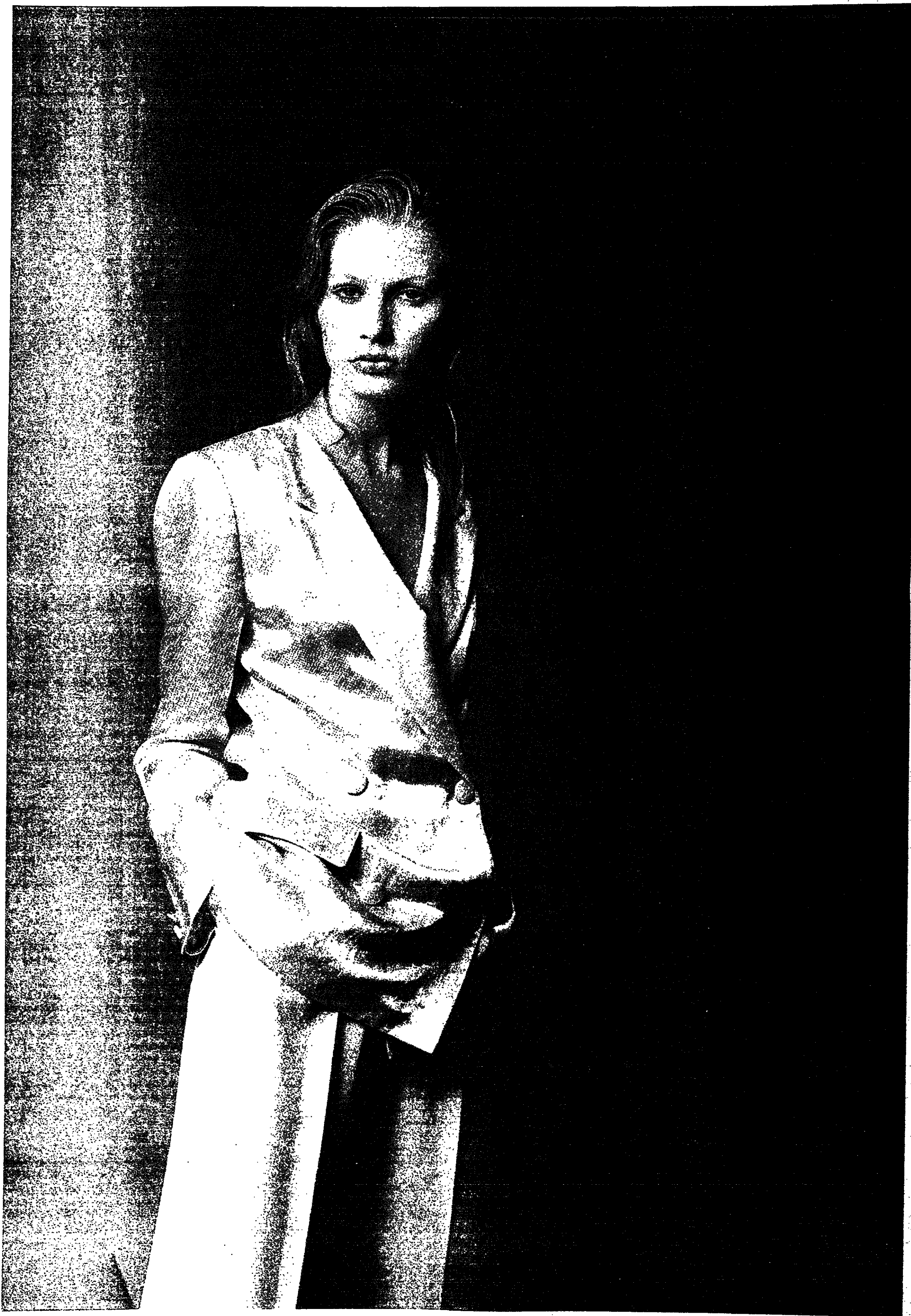


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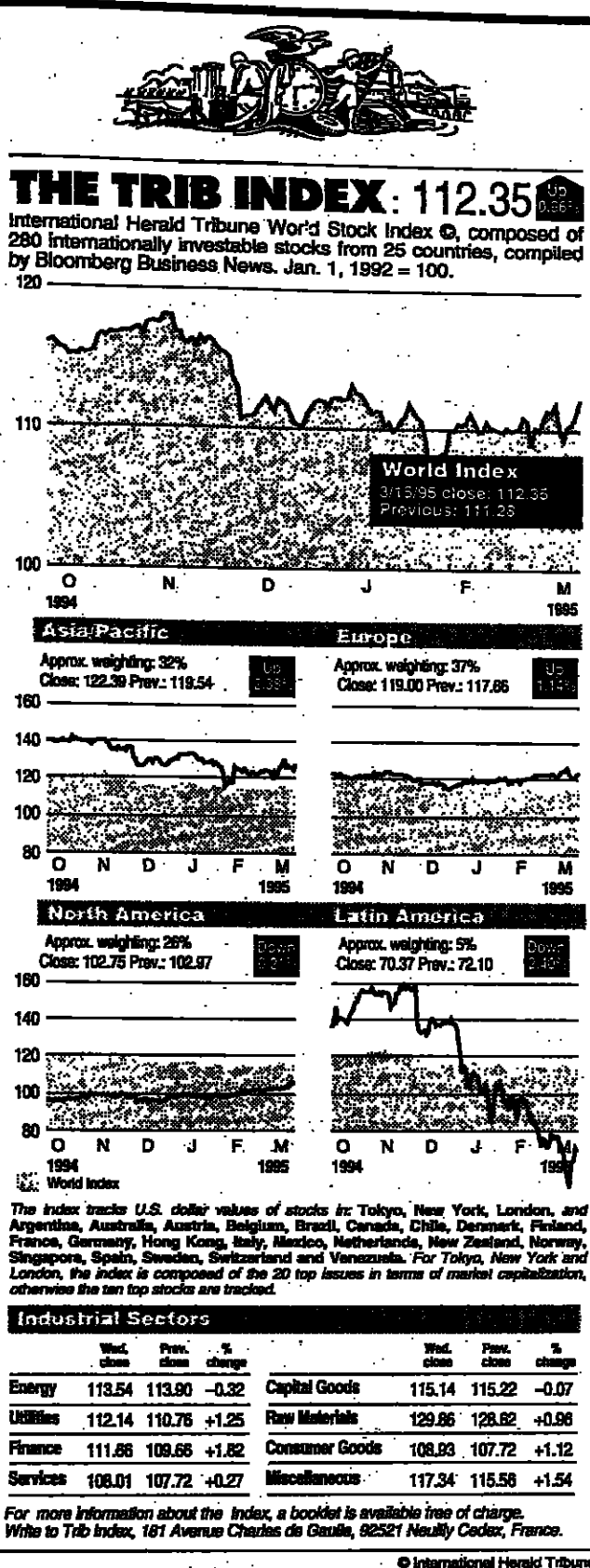
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Viacom Looks To North Scandinavian TV Adds U.S. Investor

LONDON — Paramount Television Group, a unit of the U.S. multimedia company Viacom Inc., has agreed to buy a 6.5 percent stake in Scandinavian Broadcasting System SA, known as SBS.

SBS owns and operates commercial television stations that broadcast in Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Belgium. It has said it plans to launch services in Holland and Finland by mid-year. SBS also runs commercial radio stations in Denmark, Sweden and Finland.

Viacom, which owns MTV Networks, Blockbuster Music, Blockbuster Video and the publisher Simon & Schuster, gives SBS a strategic alliance with one of the biggest media companies in the world.

Paramount has agreed to buy \$4 million worth of warrants that would allow it to buy 1 million SBS shares at \$35 a share over a five-year span. If the warrants were exercised, Paramount would pay a total of \$39 million for the stake which, in fully diluted terms, would be 6.5 percent of SBS.

SBS is already associated with the U.S. broadcaster Capital Cities/ABC Inc., which owns 25 percent of SBS's 13.5 million outstanding shares. "We are aligning ourselves with two of the key software players of the future," said Harry Sloan, SBS's chief executive.

Depending on how much SBS programming turns out to be supplied by Paramount, the deal could result in conflicts with U.S. laws, which mandate that 50 percent of European programming be produced in Europe, when practicable. But Damien Eames, a consultant with Hydra Associates in London, said the laws were not strictly enforced.

SIMEX Criticizes Barings for Role In Leeson Debacle

SINGAPORE — Authorities of the Singapore International Monetary Exchange said Wednesday that they could impose fines on Barings for withholding information about Nicholas Leeson's court records.

Mr. Leeson, whose futures trading led to the collapse of Barings PLC, was refused a trader's license in Britain for lying about unpaid debts.

Although Barings knew this, it transferred Mr. Leeson that year to Singapore, where he did not need a license to trade at the Singapore International Monetary Exchange, or SIMEX, according to the British licensing authority.

This information should have been disclosed to SIMEX because it would have been essential in assessing his application to become a trader in Singapore, SIMEX said.

According to SIMEX rules, a company that makes a false statement or supplies incorrect information to the exchange can be fined a maximum of 25,000 Singapore dollars (\$17,655). SIMEX officials refused to say whether this rule would be applied to Barings.

Christopher Sharples, the chief of the Securities and Futures Authority, said in a television interview broadcast on Monday that the authority told Barings it considered Mr. Leeson, who was then a clerk, unsuitable.

"We wouldn't regard it as appropriate for somebody who owes money as suitable for looking after other people's money, so that is why he didn't get a license," he said.

Mr. Leeson's debt of \$649 (\$1,028) to the electronics company Hitachi Ltd. was discovered when checks by the British authority showed a court order against Mr. Leeson. In May 1992, another court ordered Mr. Leeson to pay a debt of \$2,426 to National Westminster Bank.

Barings, now taken over by Internationale Nederlanden Groep NV, collapsed at the end of February. Mr. Leeson left Singapore after his trading losses ballooned, causing the demise of Barings. He was caught in Frankfurt, where he is fighting extradition to Singapore.

U.S. Data Fail to Calm Markets as Dollar Slides

By Lawrence Malkin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — The dollar Wednesday suffered from an acute case of investors' nerves as to causes as widespread as Mexico, the Bundesbank and its own recent weakness. It fell to a record closing low against the yen in New York.

The dollar firmed in early European trading and climbed as high as 1.451 Deutsche marks and 90.80 yen. But it soon plunged by about 2.5 pfennig and 1.5 yen and kept falling further in New York.

By midday, the dollar was trading only about half a yen above the postwar intra-day low of 88.75 yen established in last week's free fall, and it closed at 89.50 yen, down from a closing quote in New York on Tuesday at 90.80 yen. The dollar ended at 1.3895 DM, down from 1.4157 DM on Tuesday.

The drops took place despite a spate of economic news that put the Federal Reserve Board on guard against lowering interest rates at its next Open Market Committee meeting on March 28.

Wholesale inflation continued in February at the January rate of 0.3 percent and raw materials rose by 1.5 percent, the

biggest gain since December 1993. Industrial production rose a robust 0.5 percent and capacity utilization increased to a cyclical high of 85.5 percent, showing no signs of slowing. But inventories grew by 0.9 percent in January, which could mean that goods are beginning to pile up in factories and

stores, especially automobiles, which had been a source of economic strength.

Later in the day, the Fed's so-called Tan Book of regional economic reports found anecdotal evidence of less vigorous growth and no signs of inflation in wages or finished products, strengthening the case for a possible soft economic landing that would prompt the central bank to leave interest rates unchanged for the present. At the same time, economists in Europe doubted that the Bundesbank would change interest rates at its central council meeting on Thursday. This helped calm nervous markets and the dollar.

Argentina Raises Taxes for Debt

Bloomberg Business News

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina has announced tax increases intended to generate 3.55 billion pesos (\$3.55 billion) of revenue to ensure the country can pay its foreign debt and avoid a devaluation of its currency.

The new taxes come after the government received \$4.7 billion of loans from international agencies and said it was in talks for \$2 billion of additional financing. The loans are intended to enable the country's faltering financial system to escape from pressure created by Mexico's currency crisis.

The additional tax income will ensure that Argentina will not have to seek extra loans to finance foreign debt repayments, said Domingo Cavallo, the economy minister.

But on the whole it proved to be a day of reassessment in major financial markets. The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond, after rising Tuesday to yield 7.36 percent, the lowest since June 2, pulled back Wednesday and delivered a yield of 7.39 percent.

This immediately hit the dollar, but some blamed Mexican interest rates, which skyrocketed 25 percentage points, to 82.38 percent, on Mexican Treasury bills, making traders worry that Washington would have to inject more funds south of the border.

The maturing of \$541 million See DOLLAR, Page 12

France Sees a Future for Troubled Crédit Lyonnais

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Describing state-owned Crédit Lyonnais as "a great bank with a future" despite potential losses of at least 50 billion francs (\$10 billion), Economics Minister Edmond Alphandery pledged Wednesday that the deficit would be plugged without help from taxpayers.

With the government expected to announce a rescue package for the bank in the next few days, Mr. Alphandery said

that three of its executives, who he did not name, were being held on suspicion of embezzlement and said that allegations of fraud would be vigorously pursued. But the bulk of the losses, he said, were caused by bad management coupled with a steep decline in property prices. The 50 billion-franc figure mentioned by Mr. Alphandery represents potential losses on asset sales.

Mr. Alphandery, speaking to American and British reporters after presenting the main elements of the rescue plan to the executive Commission of the Eu-

ropean Union, said government aid would be repaid through profit and sales of assets. The bank is expected to post a loss of at least 10 billion francs for 1994.

Mr. Alphandery said Crédit Lyonnais, France's largest bank, must "take in sail" to reduce its losses as quickly as possible, while selling some of its assets.

But the rescue plan is expected to depress earnings for the next 20 years. Under government proposals, Crédit Lyonnais will put up to 140 billion francs into a new company guaranteed by the government, which will sell them off as mar-

ket conditions permit. Asked if the plan would not diminish the value of the bank in the eyes of future shareholders if the bank was privatized, Mr. Alphandery said the losses were manageable.

Banking sources said that they doubted that Crédit Lyonnais would be able to return to profitability without a helping hand from the taxpayer, even if indirectly. Marc Vienot, chairman of rival Société Générale, said Mr. Alphandery "got a bit carried away" when he said Crédit Lyonnais could entirely finance its own recovery.

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

Is CEO Overthrow Brewing at Kmart?

By Judith H. Dobrzynski
and Stephanie Strom
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — General Motors, IBM, Westinghouse, Eastman Kodak. Is Kmart next?

Take a look at the once-powerful discount chain, and it is easy to see why Joseph E. Antonini, Kmart Corp.'s chief executive, might soon become the next corporate chief to be ejected in a boardroom coup. All over the country — everywhere the company's relentless rival Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has gone — Kmart has lost ground.

Its piddling sales gains have come at the cost of squeezing profit margins so much that operating earnings have fallen for more than two years. Hampered by poor inventory control, high costs, shabby stores and no strategy to speak of, Kmart's stock, adjusted for splits, is trading about where it was 10 years ago.

Despite several attempts, Mr. Antonini has yet to show he can turn Kmart around.

To the outside world, directors of the Michigan-based company seem to be standing by their man as the board prepares to convene March 28.

Indeed, Mr. Antonini's job seems secure for at least the next few months. But behind the barricades, Kmart's directors are starting to split over what course to take, according to people close to the company and to directors. At least four board members, fearing shareholder lawsuits, are leaning toward finding a face-saving way to ease Mr. Antonini out.

The board's quandary is one that directors all over corporate America face: When a company gets in trouble, how far should they go to change management, and how fast?

The answer is never easy. Indeed, when asked if Kmart's board was doing enough to please its investors, an outside director, Willie D. Davis, president of All Pro Broadcasting, drew in his breath. "Let me ask you," he said, "what's enough?"

To many of Kmart's disgruntled investors, the 11-member board has not done nearly enough. Directors took one step in January, stripping Mr. Antonini of the chairman's title and giving it to an outside director, Donald S. Perkins. But in this era of outpoken shareholders, that has not mollified many of them. "We are going to continue to keep Joe and the board's feet to the fire," said James Severance, executive vice president of the State of Wisconsin Investment Board, one of Kmart's largest holders.

Most of Kmart's directors did not return calls and Mr. Antonini refused to comment. But people close to the company say that Kmart's board is breaking into three factions.

Mr. Perkins, a retired chairman of Jewel Cos. who was instrumental in elevating Mr. Antonini to chief executive, remains a strong backer. Most supportive is F. James McDonald, a retired president of General Motors Corp. David B. Harper, a St. Louis banker, also lines up behind Mr. Antonini.

Leaning against him are four members:

Joseph A. Califano, a cabinet member under President Jimmy Carter; Lillian H. Affinito, former vice chairman of Maxxam Group Inc.; J. Richard Munro, former co-chief executive of Time Warner Inc.; and Joseph P. Flannery, chairman and chief executive of Unimay Holding. They are, a person close to the board said, "embarrassed, uninvolved, scared about being on the hot seat."

Three others are sitting on the fence. One, Enrique C. Falla, chief financial officer of Dow Chemical Co., is said to be increasingly uncomfortable about Kmart's deteriorating condition. As a talented number-cruncher, his thoughts could tip the balance one way or the other.

Mr. Davis, once a Green Bay Packer defensive end, and Gloria M. Shatto, president of Berry College in Georgia, are also undecided but are less influential in the boardroom.

If shareholders keep demanding new leadership, any one or more of the 11 board members may prove to be Kmart's Trojan horse. "This thing has got to turn around in the next quarter or two — in terms of profits," asserted one director, who insisted on not being identified.

That would be a tall, probably impossible, order under normal circumstances. The uncertainty surrounding Mr. Antonini makes it even tougher. Employees say Mr. Perkins, who lives in Chicago, is in Michigan two or three days a week, asking questions and often challenging Mr. Antonini.

Morale among Kmart's staff already low, is sinking further. "Everybody is

See Kmart, Page 15

Fokker's Restructuring Narrows Loss

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

AMSTERDAM — Fokker NV said Wednesday it narrowed its net loss to 449 million guilders (\$282.9 million) last year from 460 million guilders in 1993 and vowed to return to profitability by 1996.

Fokker's sales fell to 2.35 billion guilders in 1994 from 3.70 billion guilders in 1993 as the market for regional aircraft slumped.

Fokker set out a restructuring program last month that is aimed at achieving that goal, which included cutting about 1,800

jobs, closing its plant at the Dutch airport of Ypenburg, relocating its headquarters to Schiphol Airport and trimming its engineering division.

Costs associated with cutting back the work force were responsible for an extraordinary charge of 150 million guilders against 1994 earnings, the company said.

Fokker said during 1994 it booked a one-time extraordinary profit of 427 million guilders from a sale-and-leaseback deal with Rabobank.

Fokker is 51 percent-owned by Fokker

Holding, Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG owns 78 percent of Fokker Holding, and the Dutch government owns the rest.

Also on Wednesday, Fokker said it agreed to sell a two-thirds stake in its space subsidiary, Fokker Space & Systems. Fokker said one-third would be sold to Utra Centrifuge Nederland NV and the other third to Farcom Ventures BV, a division of Internationale Nederlanden Groep NV. The remaining third will remain in the hands of Fokker. Financial details were not disclosed. (AFX, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Rubin, an Atypical 'Washington Animal'

By Clay Chandler
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — On Thursday morning last week, as the dollar was under assault in international markets, the focus of the financial world was a meeting room in a suburban hotel, where Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin was to address newspaper publishers and editors. Currency traders waited to see how firmly Mr. Rubin would defend the dollar.

What message did he send? "Our policy is to intervene when it makes sense, and not to do so when it doesn't."

While Mr. Rubin's circum-

spect comments on the dollar may prove the wise course, they provoked a global shrug. The dollar rallied briefly after he spoke and then resumed its downward slide.

In his previous job, as chairman of President Bill Clinton's National Economic Council, Mr. Rubin commanded respect for his deep understanding of world finance and his low-key management style. But in his first three months as treasury secretary — the most visible spokesman for the administration's economic policies — Mr. Rubin is still struggling to find his public voice.

He continues to win high

marks for the quiet, behind-the-scenes skills that have always been his strength. But the new requirements of being a Cabinet spokesman — skills that seemed to come so easily to his predecessor, Lloyd M. Bentsen — do not come naturally to him.

Mr. Rubin has said he wants Americans to gain a better grasp of how global markets affect their lives and how poverty affects inner-city residents.

"The thing you can do from here is have a more effective role in trying to increase public understanding and awareness of issues you think are really important," he said. "I sort of

Mr. Rubin also lacks Mr. Bentsen's knack for tossing off folksy one-liners. Instead, his sentences are often complex and difficult to follow. He will start off with an idea, retract it, modify it a little, then think of something else and reel back the revision. Aides have urged him to use feistier rhetoric in fighting off criticism.

Still, many colleagues defend Mr. Rubin's resistance to help from media-savvy advisers as proof of his integrity. "Bob's public-speaking persona probably won't ever be that different from what it is now," said one aide. "He just isn't the typical Washington animal."

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates									
	USD	EUR	GBP	JPY	CHF	SEK	NOK	DKK	Other
American	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
British	1.67	1.00	0.76	163.33	1.06	7.46	7.46	21.46	
French	1.66	1.66	1.00	166.67	1.00	7.46	7.46	21.46	
German	1.66	1.66	1.00	166.67	1.00	7.46	7.46	21.46	
Italian	1.36	1.36	1.00	136.36	0.93	6.36	6.36	18.36	
Japanese	106.00	163.33	166.67	1.00	1.43	14.33	14.33	43.33	
Swiss	0.70	1.06	1.00	143.33	1.00	7.46	7.46	21.46	
Swedish	4.66	7.46	7.46	14.33	1.00	7.46	7.46	21.46	
Norwegian	4.76	7.46	7.46	14.33	1.00	7.46	7.46	21.46	
Danish	13.76	21.46	21.46	43.33	21.46	1.00	7.46	21.46	
Other									
Australian	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
Canadian	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
Chinese	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
Hong Kong	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
India	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
Indonesia	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
South Africa	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
Taiwan	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
Thailand	1.00	0.63	0.48	106.00	0.70	4.66	4.76	13.76	
Other									
Eurocurrency Deposits									
	USD	EUR	GBP	JPY	CHF	SEK	NOK	DKK	Other
1 month	5.00	4.00	3.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	
3 months	4.50	3.50	2.50	0.75	1.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	
6 months	4.00	3.00	2.00	0.50	1.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	
1 year	3.50	2.50	1.50	0.25	1.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	
Other									
Key Money Rates									
	USD	EUR	GBP	JPY	CHF	SEK	NOK	DKK	Other
1 month	5.00	4.00	3.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	
3 months	4.50	3.50	2.50	0.75	1.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	
6 months	4.00	3.00	2.00	0.50	1.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	
1 year	3.50	2.50	1.50	0.25	1.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	
Other									
Forward Rates									
	USD	EUR	GBP	JPY	CHF	SEK	NOK	DKK	Other
1 month	5.00	4.00	3.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	
3 months	4.50	3.50	2.50	0.75	1.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	
6 months	4.00	3.00	2.00	0.50	1.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	
1 year	3.50	2.50	1.50	0.25	1.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	
Other									

INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT

You will find below a listing of employment offers published in last Monday's International Herald Tribune

POSITIONS	COMPANY	CONTACT
Business & Market Analyst Europe	A European Carbon Black production leader	SEQUOIA ref: BMA / CHT Marion DELPARD 9, Cité Trévise 75009 Paris - France
Senior Executives	I.C.A. Newsletter	The ICA Newsletter Box HT - 15, av. Victor Hugo 75116 Paris - France Fax: (33-1) 42.88.72.06
European Sales Manager	—	International Herald Tribune Box 1525 - 63, Long Acre London, WC2E 9JH - U.K.
International Finances Opportunities	The Coca-Cola Company	Lloyd Morgan Ref: JWCC Jeremy Williams Africa House - 64-78 Kingsway London WC2B 6AH - U.K.
Managing Director	Pharmaceutical Group	MERCURI URVAL Ref: 55.2258 / HT 3, cours Albert-Thomas 69410 Lyon Cedex 03 - France

MARKET DIARY

Price Data Send Equities Sliding

NEW YORK — One day after setting new records, U.S. stocks retreated Wednesday in response to higher-than-expected February wholesale prices.

"There's only one thing wrong with the market today," said Thom Brown, a money manager at Rutherford, Brown

and a slide by Motorola that pulled technology stocks lower.

Losing interest outpaced gains on the New York Stock Exchange by slightly more than an 11 to 10 ratio on active volume of about 311 million shares.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond gained 1/32 to close at 103 3/32. The yield remained unchanged at 7.36 percent.

Motorola, down 1 1/2 to 57, hurt technology stocks after Comcast awarded a \$200 million cellular-equipment order to AT&T instead of to Motorola.

DSC Communications, down 2 1/2 to 35, supplies Motorola with digital switches for cellular systems. AT&T was unchanged at \$24.

"Technology stocks were under pressure early," said David Butler, head of equity trading at Kemper Financial Services in Chicago.

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. fell 1/2 to 35 after China Tire Holdings Ltd., China's largest tire maker, filed a \$1 billion lawsuit accusing Goodyear of stealing its stake in a plant in northern China.

But Union Carbide gained 1 1/2 to 29 1/2 after it said its earnings would surpass expectations.

(Bloomberg, AP, Reuters)

U.S. Stocks

& Catherwood Inc. in Philadelphia. "The producer price index number gave traders a fit of overbought indignation."

Stocks were weaker after the U.S. Labor Department said that wholesale prices had climbed a surprising 0.3 percent in February and the Commerce Department said industrial production had jumped 0.5 percent.

The data fed stock investors to fear the Federal Reserve Board might raise short-term rates in a continued campaign against inflation. Higher rates would be bad news for stocks because they would raise corporate borrowing costs.

"The data were fairly benign, but people are still worried about rates," said John Burnett, a stock trader at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Securities.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 10.38 points to close at 4,038.37, hampered by a decline in Goodyear Tire & Rubber.

DOLLAR: U.S. Unit Renews Slide

Continued from Page 11

in dollar-linked Tesobonos this week, confusion about the Bank of Mexico's strategy and widespread fear that the government's economic austerity program may have backfired sent the peso lower on Wednesday.

Foreign Exchange

Reuters reported from Mexico City. The dollar rose to 6.630 pesos from 6.630 pesos on Wednesday.

"The most obvious culprit is Mexico, and it may be three to six months before the dollar evolves in a more rational manner," said Ron Levin, currency strategist at J.P. Morgan & Co. He pointed out that as long as Latin America remains nervous and volatile, central banks would have to continue selling dollars.

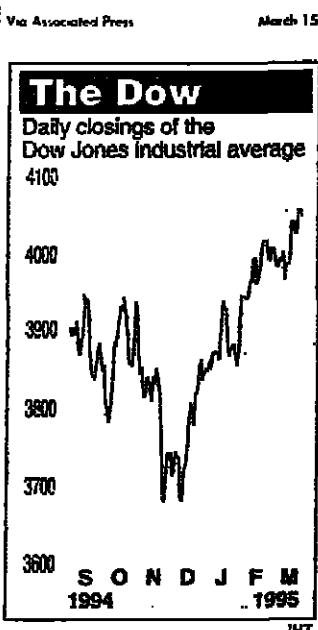
But Mr. Levin and others were reluctant to blame it all on Mexico. Interest rates on the dollar are not attractive enough to pull funds back to a currency that may be in the same kind of

long-term decline that the British pound began in the 1960s as it lost its reserve-currency luster, he said.

Adrian Cunningham of UBS Securities in London said the dollar simply "lost momentum" during the day after starting out with the bulls behind it across Europe and failing to continue after hitting what turned out to be a high point with no help from what was essentially neutral economic news from America.

"I look for more of the same," said James Mitchell of Deutsche Bank Capital Markets in London. "There are so many people calling for the dollar at 1.25 against the Deutsche mark and no places to support it that for now 1.32 looks a likely target."

Against other currencies, the dollar closed at 1.1515 Swiss francs, down from a closing rate of 1.1760 francs on Tuesday, and at 4.9398 French francs, down from 5.0145 francs on Tuesday. The pound rose to \$1.6005 from \$1.5845.



Vol. High Low Last Chg.

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38

NYSE Most Active

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38

NASDAQ Most Active

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38

AMEX Most Active

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38

Market Sales

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38

Dow Jones Averages

Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38

Standard & Poor's Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38

NYSE Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38

NASDAQ Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38

AMEX Stock Index

High	Low	Last	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4038.37	-10.38

Dow Jones Bond Averages

Class	Chg.
1,018,214	4040
1,018,214	4030
1,018,214	4038.37
1,018,214	-10.38
1,018,214	

NYSE Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030

AMEX Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030

NASDAQ Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030

Spot Commodities

Commodity	Today	Prev.
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030
1,018,214	4040	4030

EUROPEAN FUTURES

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38

Metals

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38
1,018,214	4040	4030	4038.37	-10.38

Financial

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.

Wednesday's 4 p.m. Close
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

[illegible]

12 Month High Low Stock		Div	Yld	PE	Ratio	High	Low	Latest	Chg
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

[illegible][illegible]

Month		Day		Year		High		Low		Lowest		On	
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

[The page contains dense handwritten text in Devanagari script, which is mostly illegible due to extreme blurring and low resolution.]

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and their corresponding addresses. The names are listed in a column on the left, and the addresses are listed in a column on the right. The names are: J. A. Smith, J. B. Jones, J. C. Brown, J. D. White, J. E. Black, J. F. Green, J. G. Gray, J. H. White, J. I. Black, J. J. Green, J. K. Gray, J. L. White, J. M. Black, J. N. Green, J. O. Gray, J. P. White, J. Q. Black, J. R. Green, J. S. Gray, J. T. White, J. U. Black, J. V. Green, J. W. Gray, J. X. White, J. Y. Black, J. Z. Green, J. A. Smith, J. B. Jones, J. C. Brown, J. D. White, J. E. Black, J. F. Green, J. G. Gray, J. H. White, J. I. Black, J. J. Green, J. K. Gray, J. L. White, J. M. Black, J. N. Green, J. O. Gray, J. P. White, J. Q. Black, J. R. Green, J. S. Gray, J. T. White, J. U. Black, J. V. Green, J. W. Gray, J. X. White, J. Y. Black, J. Z. Green.

[illegible]

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.

2. The second part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.

3. The third part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.

4. The fourth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.

5. The fifth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.

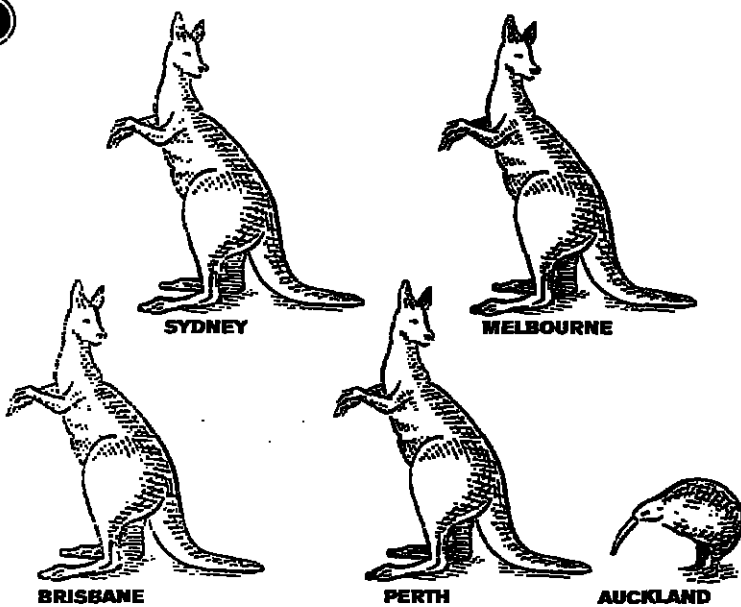
6. The sixth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.

7. The seventh part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.

8. The eighth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.

9. The ninth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.

10. The tenth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and addresses in the second column.



**Fly Thai smooth as silk to
five destinations in Australasia.**
18 flights a week from Thailand. Ten non-stop.

一、本會定於民國二十一年一月一日（即舊曆十二月廿二日）起，在
 上海法租界四馬路（即南京路）五洲大藥房對面，設立「中國救濟會」
 辦事處。凡我僑胞如有任何困難，或需要救濟者，請逕向該處接洽。
 二、本會為便利僑胞起見，特在各埠設立分會。現已成立者有：
 （一）新加坡分會：設在新加坡大馬路門牌一百零九號。
 （二）檳榔嶼分會：設在檳榔嶼海山街門牌二十五號。
 （三）怡保分會：設在怡保大馬路門牌一百零八號。
 （四）芙蓉分會：設在芙蓉大馬路門牌一百零七號。
 （五）馬六甲分會：設在馬六甲大馬路門牌一百零六號。
 （六）吉隆坡分會：設在吉隆坡大馬路門牌一百零五號。
 （七）安順分會：設在安順大馬路門牌一百零四號。
 （八）太平分會：設在太平大馬路門牌一百零三號。
 （九）巴生分會：設在巴生大馬路門牌一百零二號。
 （十）馬尼拉分會：設在馬尼拉大馬路門牌一百零一號。
 以上各分會均設有救濟部，專辦各項救濟事宜。如蒙僑胞垂青，無任歡迎。
 三、本會為擴大宣傳，特刊布此啟事，以昭大信。凡我僑胞，幸勿失之交臂。
 中國救濟會 謹啟

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and their corresponding addresses. The names are listed in the left column, and the addresses are listed in the right column. The names are: John Doe, Jane Smith, and Bob Johnson. The addresses are: 123 Main Street, 456 Elm Street, and 789 Oak Street.

2. The second part of the document is a table with two columns. The first column is labeled "Name" and the second column is labeled "Address". The table contains the following data:

Name	Address
John Doe	123 Main Street
Jane Smith	456 Elm Street
Bob Johnson	789 Oak Street

3. The third part of the document is a paragraph of text. It describes the purpose of the document and the information it contains. It states that the document is a list of names and addresses, and that it is intended to be used for mailing purposes.

4. The fourth part of the document is a list of names and their corresponding addresses. The names are listed in the left column, and the addresses are listed in the right column. The names are: John Doe, Jane Smith, and Bob Johnson. The addresses are: 123 Main Street, 456 Elm Street, and 789 Oak Street.

5. The fifth part of the document is a table with two columns. The first column is labeled "Name" and the second column is labeled "Address". The table contains the following data:

Name	Address
John Doe	123 Main Street
Jane Smith	456 Elm Street
Bob Johnson	789 Oak Street

6. The sixth part of the document is a paragraph of text. It describes the purpose of the document and the information it contains. It states that the document is a list of names and addresses, and that it is intended to be used for mailing purposes.

7. The seventh part of the document is a list of names and their corresponding addresses. The names are listed in the left column, and the addresses are listed in the right column. The names are: John Doe, Jane Smith, and Bob Johnson. The addresses are: 123 Main Street, 456 Elm Street, and 789 Oak Street.

8. The eighth part of the document is a table with two columns. The first column is labeled "Name" and the second column is labeled "Address". The table contains the following data:

Name	Address
John Doe	123 Main Street
Jane Smith	456 Elm Street
Bob Johnson	789 Oak Street

9. The ninth part of the document is a paragraph of text. It describes the purpose of the document and the information it contains. It states that the document is a list of names and addresses, and that it is intended to be used for mailing purposes.

10. The tenth part of the document is a list of names and their corresponding addresses. The names are listed in the left column, and the addresses are listed in the right column. The names are: John Doe, Jane Smith, and Bob Johnson. The addresses are: 123 Main Street, 456 Elm Street, and 789 Oak Street.

Continued on Page 14

ATTIC Leads Steps Down Sitting His

**China Permits Li
Hong Kong FT**

NYSE

Monday 3 4 2008 11:23:48

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Raider Picks Hard Target

China Fund Managed by Government

China Permits Licensing Of Hong Kong Phone Rivals

Hatchison Communications said that it has already installed an "intelligent network infrastructure" built by Siemens AG of Germany.

By Kevin Murphy
International Herald Tribune

A closed-end fund is essentially a company that owns a portfolio of investment holdings and whose shares are traded on a stock exchange. A raid on one seeks to exploit the differences between the net-asset value of the

In response to Regent's unwanted attentions, China Assets said that it had approved several investments that would spend most of the cash reserves.

Asia Stocks Follow Dow For Gains

"Only shares in the Nikkei were higher due to arbitrage linked buying, and others didn't move much," said Harushige Kobayashi, deputy general manager at Yamaichi Securities Co.

Investor's Asia

Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Thurs. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	8,365.21	8,094.59	-3.34
Singapore	Straits Times	2,070.52	2,060.58	-0.78
Sydney	All Ordinaries	1,904.30	1,885.50	-1.00
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	16,066.83	16,245.82	+2.59
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	937.32	929.71	-0.82
Bangkok	SET	1,152.34	1,155.64	+0.28
Seoul	Composite Stock	951.71	956.65	+0.51
Taipei	Weighted Price	6,555.18	6,480.31	-1.16
Manila	PSE	2,296.37	2,271.57	-0.23
Jakarta	Stock Index	428.67	425.22	-0.81
New Zealand	NZSE 40	1,853.38	1,834.60	-0.97
Bombay	National Index	1,656.61	1,681.44	+1.52

Very briefly:

- **Sega Enterprises Ltd.** said authorities in **China** had seized counterfeit copies of its video-game machines and software.

Qantas Gains Market Share

Revenue rose 10 percent, to 67 billion Australian dollars.

Revenue rose 19 percent, to 1.664 billion dollars. Revenue from international services was little

plans to sell the government's stake in the next fiscal year.
(Bloomberg, AFP, AFX)

NYSE

(Continued)

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

KMART: Dismay Endangers CEO

If not, the next annual meeting, on May 23, will probably be one raucous show.

**The world's most powerful
news-gathering network
is making a deal with you.
But only if you act now.**

Austria	A. Sch.	8,000	57 ^a	1,800
Belgium	B. Fr.	14,000	41 ^a	4,200
Denmark	D. Kr.	3,400	33 ^a	1,050
France	F.F.	1,950	49 ^a	990
Germany ^b	D.M.	700	32 ^a	210
Great Britain	£	210	82 ^a	65
Ireland	Sh.	230	57 ^a	68
Italy	Lire	470,000	50 ^a	145,000
Luxembourg	L.Fr.	14,000	41 ^a	4,200
Netherlands	Fl.	770	48 ^a	230
Portugal	Esc.	47,000	44 ^a	14,000
Spain	Pres.	48,000	41 ^a	14,500
<i>hand deliv., Madrid</i>	Pres.	55,000	39 ^a	14,500
Sweden (airmail)	S.Kr.	3,100	34 ^a	900
<i>hand delivery</i>	S.Kr.	3,500	28 ^a	1,000
Switzerland	S.Fr.	610	48 ^a	185

^a For information concerning hand-delivery in major German cities see last page (PT 100).

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INTERNATIONAL BOND TRUST

The Board of Directors of

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Directors of

The Board of Directors of

INTERNATIONAL BOND FUND MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Wednesday's 4 p.m.
This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

Year	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367</
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Wednesday's 4 p.m. Close
 Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

Month Low Stock Div Yld PE ^{Sa} 100s High Low Loss Chg

A									
9	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
10	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
11	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
12	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
13	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
14	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
15	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
16	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
17	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
18	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
19	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
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21	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
22	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
23	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
24	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
25	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
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27	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
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29	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
30	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
31	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
32	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
33	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
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35	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
36	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
37	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
38	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
39	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
40	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
41	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
42	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
43	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
44	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
45	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
46	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
47	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
48	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
49	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
50	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
51	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
52	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
53	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
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58	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
59	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
60	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
61	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
62	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
63	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
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66	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
67	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
68	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
69	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
70	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
71	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
72	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
73	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
74	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
75	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
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79	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
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81	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
82	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
83	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
84	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
85	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
86	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
87	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
88	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
89	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
90	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
91	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
92	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
93	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
94	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
95	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
96	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
97	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
98	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
99	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
100	PhAAM Str	40.7	7.4	225	40	8	3%	1%	
B									
11	PhB&H S	1,950	9.1	112	23	2%	1%		
13	PhB&H S	2,000	8.8	112	23	2%	1%		
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2% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
3% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
4% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
5% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
6% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
7% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
8% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
9% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
10% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
11% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
12% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
13% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
14% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
15% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
16% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
17% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
18% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
19% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
20% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
21% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
22% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
23% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
24% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
25% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
26% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
27% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
28% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
29% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
30% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
31% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
32% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
33% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
34% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
35% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
36% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
37% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
38% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
39% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
40% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
41% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
42% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
43% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
44% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11
45% 1%ACB	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11	1.84	51	11

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SPORTS

Baseball Club Owners Face Going To Court, and Losing

By Murray Chass
New York Times Service

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — For the third time in three months, the general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board has found reason to issue a complaint against major league baseball's club owners, charging them with violating labor laws. For at least the second time, the owners, nevertheless, claimed victory.

The owners also accused the union of continuing to stall at the bargaining table. "The union is caught up in this surreal game of Chutes and Ladders," said Stan Kasten of Atlanta — but they left Walt Disney World just as union officials were arriving for a meeting with players in nearby Orlando.

The developments Tuesday left virtually no chance for the two sides to negotiate an agreement that would get the striking players in uniform by opening day, and little chance for the players to end their strike with the aid of court action by the April 2 opener.

Fred Feinstein, the labor board's general counsel, announced in Washington that the owners would be cited for eliminating salary arbitration and the anti-collusion provision in the free-agent rules. Daniel Silverman, director of the board's New York regional office, was to issue the complaint on Wednesday.

Feinstein didn't say whether he would ask the agency's five-member board for permission to seek an injunction in U.S. District Court that would force the owners to restore the previous working terms and conditions, but there was little question that he would take that step, too.

Even Chuck O'Connor, man-

agement's chief labor lawyer, who met with Feinstein on Tuesday, said, "I heard him to be saying that having issued a complaint, he probably would seek an injunction."

Feinstein is expected to forward his request to the board by the end of this week, and the board is expected to act — favorably — by the end of next week. That would put NLRB lawyers in court around March 27.

Donald Fehr, the union leader, said once again that if a judge granted an injunction, the players would return to work. The owners then would have to decide if they would allow them back or if they would lock them out.

Rob Manfred, a management lawyer, said the clubs would have to vote on a lockout, but he acknowledged that it wasn't clear whether the vote would have to be a majority or three-fourths of the 28 clubs.

In commenting on the board's action, the owners chose to emphasize the board's refusal to cite them for taking the position that individual player contracts have to be negotiated centrally through the Player Relations Committee, the clubs' labor arm, and not with individual clubs.

The clubs' news release covering the day's events was titled "NLRB affirms clubs' right to bargain through PRC."

They played down the board's view of their position on salary arbitration and free agency. After Feinstein informed the owners Feb. 3 that he was prepared to issue a complaint against them for illegally declaring an impasse unless they withdrew their unilaterally implemented salary cap, the owners attempted to portray the settlement as a victory for them.

In December, the board issued a complaint against the owners over their failure to make a \$7.8 million payment to the players' pension and benefit plan last Aug. 1.

Both in a statement and at a news conference in Washington, Feinstein urged the two sides to return to the bargaining table. "There is nothing in these charges," he said, "that should in any way impede the ability to resume negotiations immediately."

In discussing the union's unfair labor practice charge recently, one owner expressed no concern for what the board might do.

"We know the NLRB will always rule in favor of a union," the owner said. "Our lawyers let us know the chances of management winning in front of this board are slim. But rulings don't mean beans. It's what happens in court that counts."

He was, in a sense, correct. Whatever the board does — issue a complaint, seek an injunction — the action ultimately will be determined in court.

Since Feinstein became general counsel two years ago, the board has approved every request he has made, more than 100, to seek an injunction.

Then a U.S. District Court judge has to decide whether to grant it. So if the courts are the battleground where the owners will choose to make their stand, it would be worth knowing how the NLRB has fared in court. The owners, on second thought, might not want to know.

According to board statistics, during fiscal 1995, which began Oct. 1, the NLRB has won injunctions or gained settlements of cases 83 percent of the times it has set out to get injunctions.



Shaquille O'Neal was outnumbered, and eventually overmatched, by Kari Malone (left) and the other Jazz.

Jazz Make Magic's Home Court Edge Vanish

The Associated Press

For one night at least, Orlando Arena belonged to the Utah Jazz.

The best home court advantage in the NBA wasn't enough to get the Magic past the streaking Jazz, which won its

NBA HIGHLIGHTS

ninth straight, 107-95, Tuesday night. It was only the Magic's second home loss of the season in 34 games.

But for Utah, winning away from the Delta Center has become routine.

"I think the thing I'm happiest about is that there wasn't a whole lot of whooping and hollering in the locker room," said Kari Malone, who scored 27 points against Shaquille O'Neal & Co. "It's just another win."

In snapping Orlando's 11-game home winning streak, the Jazz improved to 22-1 against Eastern Conference teams, including 11-0 on the road.

John Stockton had 18 points, 18 assists and 8 rebounds, while Utah's bench out-scored (33-12) and out-rebounded (18-2) Orlando's reserves. Antoine Carr led the way, scoring four of his 14 points in the last two minutes, and Adam Keefe contributed 11 points and 10 rebounds.

O'Neal led Orlando with 29 points and 11 rebounds. Arnette Hardaway had 24 points and Nick Anderson 17 for Orlando, whose only other loss at home came against the Seattle SuperSonics.

Suns 116, Pistons 109: Phoenix broke a two-game home losing streak and stayed even with the Jazz for the best record in the Western Conference.

Charles Barkley had 30 points and 10 rebounds, scoring nine points in the first 7:22 of the fourth quarter.

Allen Houston scored 35 points for the Pistons, who were without leading scorer Joe Dumars. He sustained a concussion Sunday night in a collision with Seattle's Shawn Kemp.

Rockets 136, 76ers 107: Clyde Drexler scored 26 points to key visiting Houston's biggest offensive output of the season.

The Rockets had eight players score in double figures as they extended their winning streak to three games and overcame a 50-point performance by Philadelphia's Dana Barros.

Suns 115, Timberwolves 100: David Robinson had 24 points and 10 rebounds as San Antonio shot 61 percent.

Red Wings Romp, as Kings Help

The Associated Press

The Detroit Red Wings are the No. 1 team in the Western Conference and you really have to hand it to them.

Which is just what the Los Angeles Kings did.

"You can't expect to kill penalties all night against a team like that," Los Angeles coach, Barry Melrose, said following Tuesday's 5-2 loss.

The Kings made it easy for the Red Wings by giving them nine power plays. The Red Wings

NHL HIGHLIGHTS

scored on three, while the Kings were 0-for-4 with the advantage.

Vyacheslav Kozlov had two power-play goals and an assist as the Red Wings ended the Kings' three-game road winning streak. Keith Primeau scored the other power-play goal for the Red Wings, while Sergei Fedorov had a short-handed goal for Detroit.

Whalers 6, Islanders 4: Forward Steven Rice had two goals and an assist as the Hartford Whalers scored five straight power-play goals to defeat the New York Islanders.

Rice set up Andrei Nikolski's goal at 3:50 of the second period, which began Hartford's comeback from 3-0. Rice scored the eventual game-winner at 2:41 of the third period.

Sabres 2, Panthers 1: Yuri Khymyev had an assist and scored the game-winning goal 54 seconds into overtime for the visiting Buffalo Sabres.

Although Buffalo goaltender Dominik Hasek inadvertently kicked the Florida Panthers' lone goal into his own net, he was spectacular when it counted, turning aside 32 shots.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
Team	W	L	Pct
Orlando	16	18	.469
New York	42	21	.669
New Jersey	35	28	.556
Boston	32	30	.516
Atlanta	23	39	.366
Philadelphia	17	45	.273
Washington	17	45	.273
WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Team	W	L	Pct
Utah	39	24	.619
San Antonio	42	18	.700
Phoenix	35	25	.581
Los Angeles	32	28	.533
Portland	23	39	.366
Seattle	17	45	.273
Minnesota	17	45	.273
PACIFIC DIVISION			
Team	W	L	Pct
Phoenix	47	16	.746
Seattle	42	19	.688
L.A. Lakers	38	23	.621
Portland	34	27	.557
Sacramento	31	30	.500
Golden State	19	42	.306
L.A. Clippers	13	50	.203

* clinched playoff berth.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Heat 91-84 at 10:30, Bulls 91-84 at 10:30, Bulls 91-84 at 10:30, Bulls 91-84 at 10:30.

Baseball Club Owners Face Going To Court, and Losing

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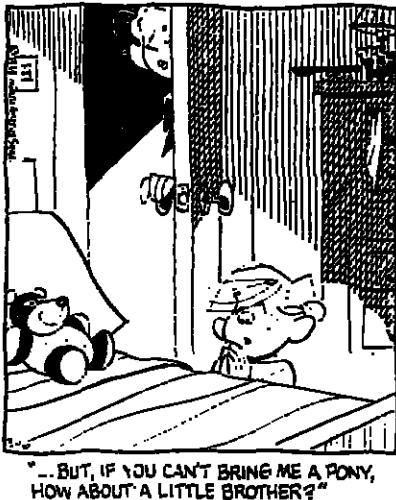
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Boston	32	30	.516
Atlanta	23	39	.366
Philadelphia	17	45	.273
Washington	17	45	.273
WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Team	W	L	Pct
Utah	39	24	.619
San Antonio	42	18	.700
Phoenix	35	25	.581
Los Angeles	32	28	.533
Portland	23	39	.366
Seattle	17	45	.273
Minnesota	17	45	.273
PACIFIC DIVISION			
Team	W	L	Pct
Phoenix	47	16	.746
Seattle	42	19	.688
L.A. Lakers	38	23	.621
Portland	34	27	.557
Sacramento	31	30	.500
Golden State	19	42	.306
L.A. Clippers	13	50	.203

* clinched playoff berth.

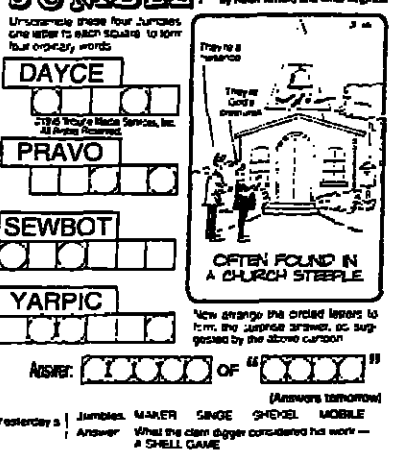
TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Heat 91-84 at 10:30, Bulls 91-84 at 10:30, Bulls 91-84 at 10:30, Bulls 91-84 at 10:30.

DENNIS THE MENACE



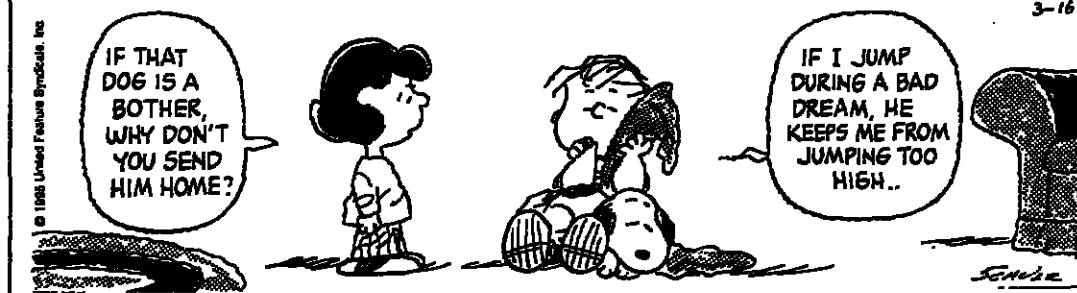
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GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILE

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1995

PAGE 19

3 Players In England Out on Bail

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
SOUTHAMPTON, England — The three Premier League players questioned by police about allegations of bribery and match-rigging were released on bail Wednesday without being charged, police said.

Goalkeepers Bruce Grobbelaar of Southampton and Hans Siger of Wimbledon and Aston Villa striker John Fashanu will be required to report back to police stations for further questioning, the police said.

The Malaysian businessman Heng Suan Lim was also released, as was Fashanu's girlfriend, Melissa Kassampasi, later in the day.

Fashanu, on his release, said he was "completely innocent" and denied any knowledge of what the police were investigating.

Grobbelaar, at a hastily arranged news conference in Southampton after his release, thanked his fans for their support but said nothing directly about the allegations. His lawyer, David Hewitt, said, "He has not been involved in any criminal act whether alone or with other people."

Earlier, the police had been granted an extra 12 hours to question Grobbelaar and Siger.

"They must report back to Hampshire police stations at a future date but I am not sure what the date is," said a police spokesman in the southern English city.

The former president of the other French team involved in the Olympic Marseille bribery trial gave a boost Wednesday to Bernard Tapie's claim that the Marseille club's owner was a victim rather than the instigator of a 1993 match-rigging scheme.

"I firmly believe that Bernard Tapie was not aware of the corruption, or at least that he was unaware of the means of payment," the former Valenciennes president, Michel Coencas, told the court.

Jean-Pierre Bernes, the Marseille club's former director general, told the court earlier that Tapie personally hatched the match-rigging scheme aboard his yacht six days before Marseille won the European Cup.

Tapie, a member of the French and European parliament and a former cabinet minister, countered that Bernes concocted that account to bolster his own defense.

Bernes also accused Valenciennes' former coach, Boro Primorac, of knowing about the bribes and threatening to expose them unless Marseille agreed to a counterproposal to settle for a draw rather than a victory.

Coencas, the first person to testify who was not among the defendants in the case, flatly denied that his club had offered anything to Marseille.

He was temporarily released from prison to give evidence at the trial. He is being held in connection with an unrelated business corruption probe.

(Reuters, AP)



Veteran midfielder Frank Rijkaard unintentionally used his head to foil Split's Mirsad Hibić. Ajax Amsterdam won, 3-0.

Bayern, Ajax and AC Milan Also Gain Cup's Semifinals

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
Bayern Munich, down to 10 players when goalkeeper Sven Schuster was sent off after 20 minutes Wednesday night, squeezed through to the semifinals of the European Champions Cup on the away-goals rule with a 2-2 draw against IFK Gothenburg.

Bayern will play Ajax Amsterdam in the semifinals.

With Schuster dismissed for bringing down forward Mikael Martinsson outside the penalty area, Bayern, held to a goalless draw in the first-leg match in Munich, staved off the few Swedish attacks for the rest of the first half.

But after the break, the visitors changed gear to full speed ahead.

Alexander Zickler, who failed to convert a golden opportunity alone with

Gothenburg goalie Thomas Ravelli early in that half, scored in 64th minute. Zickler advanced to just outside the penalty area, where he found a hole in the tight Swedish defense, and fired a shot that was out Ravelli's reach.

Eight minutes later, Christian Nerlinger made it 2-0 on a well placed volley after a corner kick.

The stunned Swedes fought back with two goals, but did not manage another to force an extension.

Mats Lilienberg, who substituted for Mikael Nilsson in 77th minute, made it 2-1 only three minutes later.

The 2-2 goal was scored by Martinsson on a fine volley shot. But then it was 94 seconds into extra time, and 30 seconds later the referee blew the whistle ending the match.

Ajax 3, Hajduk Split 0: A stylish victory capped by Frank de Boer's memorable free kick put the Dutch team into the semifinals.

De Boer's second goal, in the 67th minute, came on a curling, left-foot kick around a five-man wall, the shot leaving Hajduk goalkeeper Tonci Gabic with no chance of stopping it.

After drawing, 0-0, in Split two weeks ago, the Amsterdam club never appeared close to losing at home.

Hajduk scarcely troubled the Ajax goal, its best two chances both long-range free kicks by Aljosa Asanovic in the second half.

The Croats managed to hold Ajax for most of the first half, but Ajax finally found a way through in the 39th minute.

Ronald de Boer passed to Finnish international Jari Litmanen, who was standing just outside. Litmanen raced to the byline before chipping the ball towards the goal from the right and the 18-year-old Nigerian Nwankwo Kanu headed it home at the near post.

Five minutes later, De Boer, a defender, made it 2-0 when his flicked header off Finidi George's corner beat the diving Gabic.

Afterward, De Boer admitted he'd meant to flick the ball on, not in.

De Boer should have scored three times, but in the 71st minute he chose to pass to Litmanen with only Gabic to beat. Litmanen's resulting miss was one of a number by Ajax attackers which kept the score respectable for Hajduk.

PSG, After a Scare, Defeats Barcelona in Champions Cup

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — An idol was overturned Wednesday night, and it remains to be seen what Barcelona's 2-1 defeat in the return leg of its Champions Cup quarterfinal will bode for Johan Cruyff. For Luis Fernandez, the victorious coach of Paris St. Germain, a trip to the European semifinals comes from beating the man he most respects, deservedly so, and at Cruyff's own game no less.

Needing only a scoreless draw to advance to meet AC Milan in the semifinals — the result of PSG's 1-1 draw in Barcelona two weeks ago — the hosts found themselves one agonizing goal down in the 49th minute. But then Fernandez had chosen two days earlier to die or live with an all-out attacking side, and for him the best hopes came true on an equalizing header by Rai, followed in the 83d minute by a low, long shot inside the left post by Vincent Guerin — the unlikely scorer in this outfit, and the recipient of its single-minded approach.

The match began with promising evidence that both teams were strongest at the fore. PSG took its strength to another dimension, with David Ginola repeatedly probing the left flank from the fifth minute, when his cross was headed by George Weah over the tiny and helpless Sergi Barjuan, and tipped over the bar by Carlos Busquets. Friendly surroundings for the Barcelona goalkeeper — three times more the wood would help him in the first half.

As the worst Catalan fears were forming — fears considered ever since Romario's move back home to Brazil — the unhappy Hristo Stoichkov was suddenly beating two defenders to the end line and whistling a low ball along the border. It was a certain opening goal for most partners, certainly for Romario, but it came and went too fast for Aitor Beguiristain to tap it across the border open wide one stride before him.

No one else would frighten PSG in the half, but the hosts bolted into action nonetheless, understanding that Stoichkov's last appearance in the Parc des Princes 16 months ago swept

Bulgaria past France on its unpredictable way to the World Cup semifinal. PSG moved up trying to score as well as to keep Barcelona from scoring.

Ginola was having his way with José Cobos down the left side, then suddenly was swooping in from the right to land a soft cross off the post. Weah peppered a shot just wide with his seldom-used left foot, and the constant pressure delivered a header for Rai flicked off the post by Busquets after Valdo had intercepted the goalkeeper's weak clearance.

No news was good news for PSG, so long as the ball could be kept away from its beleaguered back line lacking the injured Brazilian sweeper Ricardo and the suspended defender Alain Roche.

But clues recalled from the first half — Cobos's exploitation in defense by Stoichkov, misplays by Antoine Kombouare and goalkeeper Bernard Lama — were ruthlessly exposed four minutes into the second half when Ronald Koeman's short free kick was headed by José María Bakero, and no defense in sight.

Panic was the first PSG reaction, as substitute José María García Lafuente was twice allowed to sneak alone into Parisian half — his first move saved hysterically by Lama. At the other end, Ginola was putting yet another shot off the crossbar, and the entire house shrugged disconsolately around him.

Perhaps this wasn't their night — until the 73d minute, when Paul LeGuen's free kick was headed in by Rai for the equalizer that would soon allow Paris to sennate the name of Vincent Guerin all through the night.

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Street Wins Downhill, 5th Straight, in Final

The Associated Press

BORMIO, Italy — Picabo Street wrapped a sensational World Cup season Wednesday as the American skier won her fifth consecutive downhill triumph in the finals of the yearly competition of Alpine skiing.

Street edged, by one-hundredths of a second, Warwara Zelenskaja of Russia in a repeat of last week's downhill finish at Lenzerheide, Switzerland.

Barbara Martin of Italy beat another American, Hilary Lindh, for third place.

Street, 23, who had clinched the World Cup downhill title prior to the Bormio race, flashed down the 2,358-meter-long Stelvio track in 1 minute, 38.41 seconds.

She became the first American woman to win the downhill title.

Zelenskaja was clocked in 1:38.50, Martin in 1:38.71 and Lindh in 1:38.84, with Olympic downhill champion Katja Seizinger of Germany, finishing a disappointed fifth.

The top finishers clocked top speeds of 115 kph down the steep course, dropping 714 meters, which hosted the 1985 world championships.

Defending World Cup overall champion Vreni Schneider held a 19-point lead over German runner-up Seizinger as she did unexpectedly well in the downhill, which is not the favorite race of the Olympic slalom champion.

Schneider placed ninth, 1.39 seconds behind Street, and had 1,119 points.

Lindh, who won two races early in the season, finished second in the downhill standings. Seizinger finished in third place.

"To tell the truth I was surprised I won today," Street said, adding that "it must be my lucky streak."

She slightly injured the fin-

ger of her left hand when she hit a gate during Monday's practice, but said she was not hampered in the race.

"I can't wait to get my hand on the crystal bowl," she said,

referring to the World Cup trophy.

The women's downhill kicked off the World Cup series of eight finals that continue through Sunday.



Picabo Street got her hands "on the crystal bowl."

Tomba, Sitting at Home, Finally Gets His Title, as Alphand Wins Downhill

The Associated Press

BORMIO, Italy — Alberto Tomba, ending a nine-year quest, on Wednesday won his first World Cup overall title without taking the slopes as five-time champion Marc Girardelli finished 17th in the season's last downhill and failed to collect the points he needed to threaten Tomba's victory.

The race was won by Luc Alphand of France, with A.J. Kitt of the United States finishing second.

Alphand's third triumph this season, in 1 minute, 53.50 seconds down the steep Stelvio track, earned him the World Cup downhill title. He became the first Frenchman to win it since Jean Claude Killy in 1967.

Kitt, producing his best downhill result this season, finished 0.29 seconds back. Lasse Kjus of Norway was third, in 1:53.92.

Kristian Ghedina of Italy, who had been the downhill leader, came in sixth, 0.53 seconds behind the winner, to finish second in the Cup standings.

Tomba, Italy's most popular and most successful World Cup skier with 43 victories and seven specialty Cups, has 1,050 points in the overall standings, putting him 350 ahead of Jure Kosir of Slovenia and 380 ahead of Girardelli as the World Cup finals continue with a super-G Thursday, a giant slalom Saturday and a slalom Sunday.

A victory is worth 100 points, second place 80 and third place 60.

"I can celebrate now that mathematics show that I have won, at last," Tomba said by telephone from his home in Bologna.

Firmin Zurbiggen, his Swiss teammate Paul Accola and Girardelli, who compete in all Alpine disciplines, barely beat out Tomba for the overall titles in 1990, 1992 and 1993.

"If the combined were canceled, and speed skiers were not helped by the points system, I could have won more than one World Cup," Tomba said, adding that "if you visit the homes of Zurbiggen, Accola and Girardelli, you will find the Cups which belong to me."

He became the first technical skier in 17 years to win the men's overall crown. He said he planned to arrive in Bormio on Thursday. His first final is Saturday's giant slalom, in which he shoots for the specialty title. He has already won the slalom title.

Italy's previous overall triumph in the World Cup dated back to 1975, when Gustavo Thoeni, now Tomba's personal coach, won his fourth title following a last-race duel with Ingemar Stenmark in Val Gardena.

Stenmark, who also did not compete in speed races, won his last World Cup in 1978.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 CD follower
4 Goodbye, to Gals
8 Release
13 Ex of Mickey

14 Secure, informally
15 Straight
16 Where to make a scene
17 Sophisticated

18 Fired up
19 Holiday exhibit
21 Working
23 French seasoning
24 Finery
25 Sundae?

27 Den
28 Latin word
29 Like Amundsen
30 "Hurry up!"
31 "Give it up!"

32 "Miss Otis Ragsdale may?"
33 Hand occasion
35 Took up again
36 Web-footed animal

37 High pair
38 Queen of heaven
39 Kind of crab
40 Bel

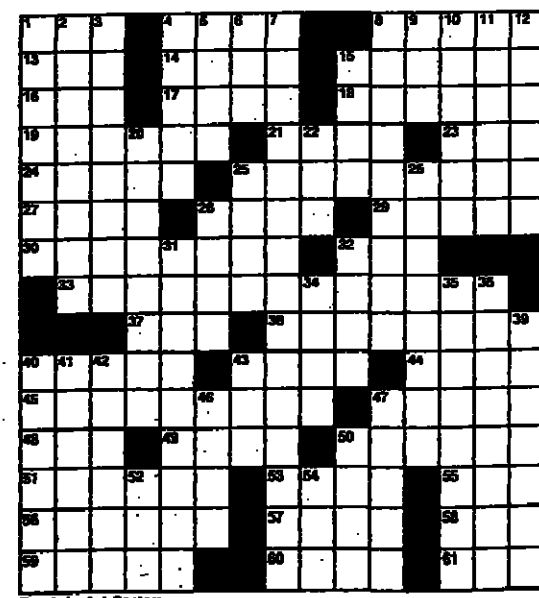
41 (operatic style)
42 "What a good boy!"
43 Home of the 40-Down
44 Shade of blue
45 Pottery luster

46 Where Bountiful is
47 Sleeve
48 At an angle
49 An old story
50 Red Rose, e.g.
51 Pusses
52 First place
53 Equivalent of A.S.T., for clocks

54 Sneeze
55 Villains
56 Infame

DOWN
1 Villains
2 Infame

3 Equipment
4 French water
5 Stave (for)
6 Lullaby memento
7 Union contract provision
8 Raising
9 Blowup; Abbr.
10 Brief promo
11 Dungeons & Dragons devotees
12 To avoid the alternative
13 Café additive
14 Like some staircases
15 N.F.L. scores
16 Forbear
17 Saskatchewan city
18 Part of an M.D.'s educ.
19 Exceeds
20 "Famous" cookie name
21 Be giddy
22 Swamp
23 Emotionally secure
24 "Welcome" site
25 Family in a 1936 best seller
26 Least wild
27 Bagatelle
28 — Lingus
29 Venom
30 "Over There" composer
31 Boop
32 Weather system
33 Little bit



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Solution to Puzzle of March 15

AMES REBA BANKS
BARI OMIT ONEAL
ERIT OMOT DIZZY
LUCKYSPILT
ALL OLAND
TIVA MESSBOY AFF
HIPPETYHOP IVAR
ROPER BAN IMAGO
OLEG JIGGITYJIG
BEA SALSODA ONS
TRAIN TLA
FLIPPITYVELOP
ABATE ARRO TILLO
DOZEN MERO JIAGO
ABORT SPAY KRAY

SIDELINES

Former Champ Kipkeoch Dies at 33

NAIROBI, Kenya (Reuters) — The former world 10,000-meter champion Paul Kipkeoch died Monday night in a hospital in the remote rural center of Kapsabet, near his home in the Rift Valley, athletics officials said on Wednesday. He was 33.

Kenya's sports commissioner, Mike Boit, said Kipkeoch died after a short illness, but no details were given.

Kipkeoch won the 10,000 meters at the 1987 championships in Rome, then quit running in 1988 in a dramatic move that undermined Kenyan athletes' wrangles with officials over cash — with Kipkeoch protesting at the time that a car he won at an international meet in Europe had been taken by an official.

Last year, he attempted a return with a few road races and half-marathons in the United States and Europe, but returned to his farm to grow maize.

For the Record
Damon Stoudamire, Arizona's star guard, has had his eligibility restored for the NCAA tournament, but teammate Ben Davis remains ineligible, the university said.

Kent Nilsson, the 38-year-old Swede trying to return to the Edmonton Oilers after being out of the NHL since 1987, has ended his comeback, the team said; he will be replaced by Mats Lindgren, a 20-year-old prospect from Sweden, who is due to arrive Friday.

Karl Heinz Weigang, the veteran German coach, has been signed to train the Vietnamese national squad, the federation said.

Mark Duper, the former wide receiver of the Miami Dolphins, was found not guilty on all charges of attempting to buy cocaine, convert it to crack and sell it.

The U.S. soccer team said that four television networks — ABC, ESPN, ESPN2 and the Prime Network 22 — had agreed to broadcast 84 of its matches through 1997.

Quotable
● Blackie Sherrod in The Dallas Morning News: "Grapevine reports that Mike Tyson is down to 182 pounds, which must mean his prison has lousy food or an unimaginative pharmacy."

● Larry Andersen, a pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, on Pedro Borbon, Cincinnati's 48-year-old and fat replacement pitcher: "He gives new meaning to that term 'Big Red Machine.'"

Mexico Is Out as Host Of '97 Championships

The Associated Press

MONTREAL — Mexico City withdrew Wednesday as host of the 1997 World Outdoor Athletic Championships.

President Ernesto Zedillo, in a letter to the International Amateur Athletic Federation's president, Primo Nebiolo, said his country's financial crisis made it impossible to stage the event.

Nebiolo said the IAAF would do "everything possible now to find a suitable and dignified alternative to Mexico."

He said the IAAF had "a number of alternatives" to choose from and a new site would be selected shortly.

IAAF sources said Athens is considered a leading contender to replace Mexico. Athens has already been selected to stage the 1997 world indoor championships, but officials said there was no reason the city could not host both events.

Stratos Molyvas, head of the Greek Athletics Federation, claimed in a telephone interview that "we have been promised that we will get them."

But the IAAF's spokesman, Christopher Winner, categorically rejected that assertion.

"We have made no promises to any nation, nor are we in a position to do so at this stage," Winner said. "The Greeks will

have to go through the bidding process just like any other nation."

Other possible candidates include the Spanish cities of Madrid and Barcelona.

Geraldo Cebrían, spokesman for the Spanish track federation, said Spain would decide within a week whether to support Madrid or Barcelona for 1997, or Seville for 1999.

Winner said the IAAF would petition all its federations to bid for the 1997 championships. The new venue is expected to be named by June 1, he said.

The IAAF selected Mexico as the 1997 host in Nov. 1993. The choice was a controversial one, with critics complaining about the city's altitude and pollution.

Nebiolo announced last week that the 1997 championships will be the first to offer prize money.

● The Chinese team competing at this year's championships, Aug. 4-13 in Gothenburg, has turned down hotel accommodations in favor of army barracks, organizers said.

The 30-member Chinese delegation, including athletes, coaches and officials, will stay in barracks in Borås, 50 kilometers (30 miles) southwest of Gothenburg in order to promote a "team feeling," organizers said.

(AFP)

